

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

28 MAY 1987

Israel

The classified section of the Rotenstreich-Tzur committee report contains findings that are "no less serious" than those of MK Abba Eban's committee, *Ma'ariv* reported 28 May, adding that this secret report criticizes Shim'on Peres, Yitzhaq Shamir, and Yitzhaq Rabin for failing to check the facts of the Pollard affair and thereby providing the Americans with erroneous information. In a related development, Jerusalem radio disclosed that the secret part of the Rotenstreich-Tzur report will not be handed over to the United States. The radio also noted Prime Minister Shamir's view that the submission of the two committee reports on the Pollard affair "closes the case." Foreign Minister Peres again defended his own conduct over the affair in a Jerusalem television interview, denying Likud MK Eliyahu Ben-Elisar's claim that he knowingly lied to the Eban committee. Stressing Ben-Elisar's "entire lack of seriousness and lack of honesty," Peres accused him of telling "baseless stories" about "things that do not involve me."

Iran

Complaint to Turkey — A Turkish Foreign Ministry spokesman expressed "regrets" over a magazine article about Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni's "alleged sex life" during exile in Turkey in 1957-60, *ANATOLIA* announced. The spokesman made the remarks 26 May after the Iranian ambassador lodged a complaint about the article. According to an Iranian Embassy statement cited by IRNA, Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal received the Iranian ambassador the next day and refuted a claim by the article's author that the Turkish national security organization was his source. Ozal told the diplomat this claim is "totally unfounded" and said the article's publisher would be prosecuted.

USSR Denies Arms Delivery — TASS termed an "ill-intentioned fabrication" a story in *The New York Times* that the Soviet Union "quietly" delivered advanced weapons to Iran last December. The agency said such "scoops" were intended to distract attention from the scandal over "unlawful" shipments of U.S. arms to Iran.

Naval Readiness — The Revolution Guards naval commander announced his forces' "full readiness" in "all dimensions," according to IRNA. The commander was meeting with Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

Gulf

A Liberian-registered tanker was hit near Kuwaiti shores 26 May, KUNA reported, citing "authorized sources." The extent of damage and the source of the attack were unknown.

Saudi Arabia

In an 'Id al-Fitr speech carried by SPA, Crown Prince 'Abdallah warned that the Iran-Iraq war could widen into an international "explosion," and he appealed to "the brothers in Tehran" to take heed of the "ominous alarms on the horizon." On domestic affairs, he urged citizens to shift their investments from foreign holdings into the Saudi economy, asserting that now is the time for "monies imprisoned in boxes and estranged from the homeland" to be withdrawn from "exile" for investment in the construction of a "strong state and happy society."

Ramadan Amnesties

Committees acting on Saudi King Fahd's instructions released over 5,000 Saudi and foreign prisoners during the month of Ramadan, the Saudi Interior Ministry announced in a statement carried by SPA. The Saudi amnesty covers prisoners convicted of "simple and light" offenses and those who have only a short period left to serve in jail.

In other amnesties at the conclusion of Ramadan, *Bakhtar* announced the release of 181 prisoners from Afghanistan's Pol-e Charkhi prison, while *The Jerusalem Post* noted that the South Lebanese Army released 46 Shi'ite prisoners from Al-Khiyam jail in southern Lebanon. The Israeli authorities released 24 inmates of Tulkarm prison, Jerusalem radio revealed.

Syria-USSR

An "informed source" in Damascus cited by Radio Monte Carlo stated that President Hafiz al-Asad's 26 May talks with a Soviet envoy focused on the Palestinian problem and PLO-Syrian relations. ASANA report on the meeting noted that the Soviet visitor gave Al-Asad a message from Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev on bilateral and international issues.

FBIS**DAILY REPORT
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Al-Qadhdhafi Rules Out Meeting With 'Arafat
LD271913 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1702 GMT
 27 May 87

[Text] Tripoli, May 27 (TANJUG) — Contrary to expectations, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Executive Committee Yasir 'Arafat is not going to Libya for a meeting with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

Al-Qadhdhafi believes time is not yet right for such a visit, although relations between 'Arafat and the Libyan leader have thawed to a considerable extent lately.

Reliable Libyan sources also told TANJUG's correspondent that arrangement of a possible meeting between Al-Qadhdhafi and 'Arafat was one of the main objectives of a recent visit to Libya by head of the PLO Political Department Faruq Qaddumi.

According to the sources, the Libyan leader said that more time would be needed for that, because the psychological barrier raised by longstanding disagreement between the two leaders has not yet been overcome.

A possible visit to Tripoli by the Palestinian leader would automatically burden even more Libya's relations with Syria, and Al-Qadhdhafi wants to prevent that, the sources say.

They reveal that a planned visit to Libya by Syrian Deputy Prime Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam was cancelled due to the visit of 'Arafat's foreign minister Qaddumi. Therefore, a meeting between Al-Qadhdhafi and Al-Asad is also out of the question, although there has been much speculation about it here lately.

'Arafat on International Conference, Arab Ties
JN241022 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic
 21 May 87 pp 1, 20

[Interview with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat by As'ad al-Samman in Tunis — date not given]

[Text] [Al-Samman] Much is being said for and against the international conference. Is this conference a trial balloon like the others, or is the call serious, given the agreement among the superpowers to end regional conflicts?

['Arafat] I must point out that the majority of countries support an international conference to solve the Middle East problem. The international conference was endorsed by the nonaligned states at their meeting in Harare late last year, by the ICO countries in Kuwait, and by the European countries in their recent statement, which was based on the Venice Declaration. This declaration clearly refers to the Palestinian people's self-determination and the PLO's participation in the conference. We must also recall the Soviet-French initiative, which was announced during President Mitterrand's visit to Moscow and the PRC Government's agreement to attend such a gathering as a permanent member of the UN Security Council. I must also clearly note the U.S. Administration's agreement to participate in the conference in general. However, I do not foresee participation in the international conference due to the ongoing dispute

within the Israeli leadership. [sentence as published] I must point out that there is an Israeli-U.S. attempt, coupled with the connivance of certain Arab states, to hold a superficial international conference that would result in suspect bilateral agreements, such as Camp David. At such a conference, certain representatives would wipe out the Palestinian cause, position, and representation to help implement the conspiracy.

[Al-Samman] Based on what you say, do you not feel such a conference should be preceded by thorough preparation and Arab agreement that would permit the Arabs to present a single, undisputed paper at the gathering? And does this not make an Arab summit imperative?

['Arafat] Precisely. An Arab summit is now the most important Arab need. It should be held before the fall. Thus, Arab disputes should be removed. Here I must note with satisfaction King Fahd's efforts to resolve Moroccan-Algerian differences, the work to end the Iraq-Iran conflict, and other attempts to settle differences among Arab brothers.

[Al-Samman] Do you believe the Arab summit will be held after 'Id al-Fitr?

['Arafat] I do not think so. It will probably take place before next fall.

[Al-Samman] Most Arab and international political circles agree that if the international conference is not held this year, the Palestinian problem will be frozen for several years due to the U.S. and Israeli elections.

['Arafat] At least 4 years. You are right. Therefore, the international conference must be held this year. Efforts are being made to do so.

[Al-Samman] Is Murphy's visit to the region serious or rational? Is the United States sincere about convening an international conference?

['Arafat] I do not believe the United States is serious in trying to find a solution despite its statements. After all, its actions give the impression that it is not serious in its agreement on holding the conference. A simple proof of this is the plot against the PLO offices in the United States. Some members of Congress are trying to pass a bill to close our offices in the United States. This is against U.S. law. We are members of the United Nations and have the right to open offices there. If their demands to close our office are implemented, the United States will forfeit its qualifications to host the United Nations. The United States is fighting us when our presence is legitimate in accordance with U.S. law. We are members of the United Nations. Do you think the United States is serious in its efforts to find a solution to the problem when it is carrying out such actions against the PLO?

[Al-Samman] Then we are moving in a vicious circle.

['Arafat] Regrettably so. It seems the U.S. Administration is pushing us around in a vicious circle. Its approval of the international conference only came after the Irangate scandal to save it from the resulting impasse afflicting its relations with the Arab

states. Hence, there are no principled reasons prompting the U.S. Administration to help convene the international conference.

[Al-Samman] Then what are we to do?

[Arafat] We must obey God's injunctions and continue the struggle.

[Al-Samman] And what about the rifle?

[Arafat] We will not stop using it, God willing. This is the PNC's decision and for us it is binding. We take pride in the firmness and determination of our brethren in the occupied territories, where our people have been waging the longest confrontation in villages, camps, and universities for 6 months. Some schools have been closed for an indefinite period while others were shut for 4 months.

[Al-Samman] At the conclusion of its meetings in Algiers, the PNC issued several resolutions. Some were favorably received while others, especially those pertaining to Egypt, Syria, and Morocco were not. Some clouds of misunderstanding have also emerged in your relations with Algiers. Then came your tour, at the head of a delegation, beginning with Iraq and ending with Saudi Arabia, during which you sought to explain the PNC resolutions to Arab leaders. There are also reports of attempts at mediation by Iraq, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and Yemen, which are designed to dispel the clouds of misunderstanding resulting from the PNC resolutions. How successful was your tour of the region?

[Arafat] First and foremost, I would like to state that I am proud of President Husni Mubarak. He is a patriot, and is one of the officers whom the Arab nation is proud of. I am confident the summer cloud will vanish, especially since the American stand toward our cause has changed and following the emergence of a policy by some congressmen designed to close our offices in the United States. The U.S. congressmen's new stand is based on the closure of our offices in Egypt, and I am sure President Mubarak will not allow this passing cloud to be exploited.

[Al-Samman] What about Morocco?

[Arafat] The misunderstanding with Morocco has vanished, God willing, thanks to the mediation of His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques. We hope His Majesty King Hassan II will allow our offices to remain open; these offices will do their duties as they have done in the past. I thank the king for that.

[Al-Samman] There are reports that [PLO] delegations will visit Damascus and Amman. Is that true?

[Arafat] As a matter of fact, we have decided to open up to all the Arab states, including Syria. Thus, we are eager to bring about this rapprochement. We are also eager to form the delegations if the Syrian brothers agree to receive them; this would make us happy.

[Al-Samman] And what of a delegation's visit to Jordan?

[Arafat] We are also ready to send a delegation to Jordan, as the PNC approved a resolution stipulating that there must be distinguished relations between the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples, and that future ties between them must be based on a confederation. I am committed to implementing this policy.

[Al-Samman] What about relations with the Soviet Union, especially since we know it played a key role in restoring national unity before and during the PNC session? What about this role?

[Arafat] You know that contacts with the Soviet Union have been unceasing. We thank the Soviet leaders for the part they played in enhancing national unity.

[Al-Samman] What about reports of a chill in your relations with Algeria?

[Arafat] Algeria has fully embraced the PNC session and has also fully shouldered the responsibility of hosting us and our guests. Furthermore, it has given us some food supplies. In addition, Algeria mobilized its army, fleet, and air force [during the PNC], which cost it too much money. On top of all this, I cannot fail to proudly mention the great efforts made by Algeria following the good and serious initiative launched by President Chadli Bendjedid. That initiative was the main reason behind the launching of intra-Palestinian dialogue. This initiative, which was adopted by Algeria, succeeded and its effects were reflected in the opening of the PNC. You know that after its election, the new Executive Committee visited President Chadli who uttered those famous words: "Palestinian unity fortifies this citadel. I will increase my support and backing for the PLO and the Palestinian people. I will move on Arab and international levels to express my firm support." In my name and on behalf of the Palestinian people, I thank him for this initiative.

[Al-Samman] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], one can see that you make frequent visits to the African states.

[Arafat] The African states are the strategic belt of the Palestinian revolution. These great, struggling peoples extend help silently. They helped us at a time of Arab siege. They do not help in return for a profit. The African peoples and leaders firmly back the Palestinian people. The African states consider the Palestinian question their own.

[Al-Samman] And Europe?

[Arafat] We have good relations with most European countries. We thank them all for the EEC statement on PLO participation in an international conference and on Palestinian self-determination despite the hardships and pressures placed on them.

[Al-Samman] Eastern Europe?

[Arafat] We take pride in those relations.

[Al-Samman] Latin America?

[Arafat] We have excellent relations with many Latin American states. Some Latin American delegations participated effectively in our recent PNC session.

[Al-Samman] What is your stand on the Iraq-Iran war, especially after Iran escalated the conflict by striking a Soviet ship?

[Arafat] Indeed, this is one of Iran's grave mistakes, and will have tremendous repercussions. At the same time, it means that Iranian leaders insist on rejecting peace. This is against the interests of the Iraqi, Iranian, and Arab peoples. Moreover, this is contrary to the interests of weak nations that are seeking peace.

[Al-Samman] Brother Abu 'Ammar, do you believe the Iraq-Iran war is being continued for internal reasons? Some say an internal, civil war would start if this war stopped. How true is this?

[Arafat] The entire world calls for an end to this conflict. Despite all Arab, international, and Islamic mediation, this war must be halted. [sentence as published]

[Al-Samman] What about relations with the GCC states?

[Arafat] We are proud of these ties. We thank all of these states for the great support they extended to the Palestinian revolution and the Palestinian people. During my recent tour after the PNC session, I met with the brother leaders of the GCC states and Saudi Arabia. I consider this tour one of my most successful. It had positive and constructive results. At this point, I would like to refer to the initiative of His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah in his capacity as amir of Kuwait and chairman of the ICO summit. Thus far, and in less than a week, he has sent two envoys to Egypt to remove the effects of the disagreement, which I term a summer cloud.

[Al-Samman] How has the Palestinian cause benefitted from the ICO conference?

[Arafat] We can say that to understand world interest in the ICO summit conference we note that two-thirds of the resolutions pertain to the Palestinian question. This means the Islamic states are very interested in the Palestine question, as Palestine is one of the holiest Islamic places. We have not forgotten that to honor Palestine and express the Islamic states' interest, I was elected permanent deputy chairman of the Islamic conference.

[Al-Samman] Do you believe Israel wants peace?

[Arafat] No. Peace is Israel's worst enemy.

[Al-Samman] So everything being said is nothing more than posturing.

[Arafat] I believe Israel will continue to maneuver. However, we are working in accordance with the Prophet's tradition: "Work for your present life as if you are living forever and work for your life in the hereafter as if you are dying tomorrow." We are fighting and resisting with every means in our possession. However, if any new initiative to reach an overall solution arises in our area, we will not hesitate to embrace it.

[Al-Samman] I take your comments to mean that Israel does not want peace.

[Arafat] When we hear the Israeli leaders say the solution is deportation, how can we believe they want peace? Yesterday an Italian paper asked me where the Palestinian state's borders are. I said: Before I answer let me ask you, where is the map of Israel?

[Al-Samman] Do you expect a major Israeli aggression or a war against the Arabs this year? We are accustomed to having Israel launch its wars and acts of aggression at the start of every U.S. election. What do you think?

[Arafat] We must know that the savage attacks on our camps in Lebanon are preparations for an act of aggression. We are used to it.

PLO's Salah Khalaf on Syria, Israel, Abu Nidal
LD242005 Budapest Television Service in Hungarian
1700 GMT 24 May 87

[Interview with Fatah Deputy Chairman Salah Khalaf by Alajos Chrudinak in Budapest; date not given — recorded; Khalaf speaks in Arabic with superimposed Hungarian translation]

[Text][Chrudinak] Many people feel that the break with Jordan, Morocco, and Egypt at the latest session of the Palestinian parliament, as well as the fact that its relations with Syria have not yet improved, would all have an extremely negative effect on the PLO's position. What do you think?

[Salah Khalaf] Had there been no debate or conflict with Egypt, Morocco, and Jordan, we could say the parliament made a mistake; its resolutions would have been bad. That these countries are making such a fuss proves precisely the success of the Palestinian parliament. Now, for the first time, we have worked out a clear and firm policy free of ambivalence. We have created national unity on this basis, and that is the main thing.

In my opinion, the repudiation of the Amman agreement was a historic event. Thus, I feel it was only natural for Jordan, Egypt, and Morocco to make a great fuss over its abrogation. As far as Syria goes, we are trying to get Damascus to change its stance toward us, as that would primarily concern the interests of Syria and the Palestinian people.

[Chrudinak] Dr George Habash met recently with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. To my knowledge, President al-Asad enquired first and foremost at the meeting about what assurances there were that 'Arafat would really change his policy. Thus, the Syrian president asked for guarantees. What is your opinion of the Al-Asad-Habash meeting?

[Salah Khalaf] The meeting between Dr George Habash and President al-Asad was undoubtedly useful. In my opinion, the session was positive. Do you want to know what issue will put 'Arafat and the new leadership to the test? Relations with Egypt. President al-Asad discussed this as well. In my view, if Syria wants to take advantage of a historic opportunity, it must settle

its relations with the PLO very quickly. It will open a new gate for (?us) in the process, as it is impossible for every gate to close before the new leaders. I believe that if Syria finally makes up its mind, it will be able to reach a quick decision. I arrived at this conclusion after I spoke with Habash following his talks with President al-Asad. In my opinion, we can count on positive developments in the near future.

[Chrudinak] So is there hope for improved relations with Syria?

[Salah Khalaf] Of course, we are optimists. We must always be optimistic.

[Chrudinak] What is your opinion of the Iraq-Iran war? How long do you think it can go on? Will there be peace? Is there any way out? What is your view on this?

[Salah Khalaf] Unfortunately, I see no end to this war, as Iran has based its entire foreign policy on its continuation. Therefore, we cannot speak of this, for I see no sign of this conflict ending within the foreseeable future. The Iranians believe time is on their side.

[Chrudinak] Is it conceivable that Syria and Iraq, which are hostile to each other, might draw closer together? After all, I have heard that Jordan's King Husayn is now mediating between them. Is that true?

[Salah Khalaf] I have reliable information that President al-Asad and Saddam Husayn have met secretly.

[Chrudinak] In Jordan?

[Salah Khalaf] In Jordan. They held more than 5 hours of talks immediately after President al-Asad returned from the Soviet Union. I also have information that this meeting, was, unfortunately, unsuccessful.

[Chrudinak] During and after the Palestinian parliament's session, many people charged that the PLO would pursue a radical, extremist policy, and that some of its factions would return to terrorism. Would you care to comment?

[Salah Khalaf] One does not move backward, but forward. The PLO has closed the books on this issue once and for all. All its member organizations condemn terrorism. No one can think of conducting military actions outside occupied Palestine — no one.

[Chrudinak] You met in Algiers with Abu Nidal [Sabri al-Banna] and representatives of the so-called Abu Nidal terrorist group. No one has talked about this meeting until now. What did you discuss? Were you able to reach any agreements, and if so on what? The suppression of terrorist actions, for instance, the stopping of terrorist acts committed by Abu Nidal's group?

[Salah Khalaf] I had not seen Abu Nidal for 14 years. This was our first meeting in 14 years. I am one of those Palestinian leaders who is well acquainted with Abu Nidal. I know who he is, since he was my subordinate for a long time. He worked directly under me for about 7 years. However, we broke with him 14 years ago, since he followed a line opposed to the PLO's policy. He stepped

onto the path of terrorism, involving Palestinians, Arabs, and foreigners. He launched numerous attacks on Palestinians, too. Abu Nidal carried out a total of 98 terrorist actions. Some 56 of them were against Palestinians, the PLO. Fifty-six attacks. That is more than half of all the killings.

When representatives of the organizations negotiating on PLO unity went to Tripoli for talks with Colonel al-Qadhafi, Abu Nidal took part in such a meeting for the first time. Then he came to Algiers. We discussed this issue then. We thought it might be better to get in touch with him, and thus prevent his continued terrorism. After all, if we went on boycotting and excluding him, he could, with his terrorism, easily enter anyone's service.

[Chrudinak] Do you hope he will revise his past policy? Did he really promise not to commit any additional acts of terrorism?

[Salah Khalaf] Yes, he said that for a set period of time, 10 months, there would be no acts of terrorism. We will meet again later to evaluate what happened.

[Chrudinak] You sentenced Abu Nidal to death in 1974 when his attacks began. You even expelled him from Fatah. Now, though, 'Arafat, you, and, so I have heard, Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir] have all met with him. Do you think Abu Nidal has changed and abandoned his past policy?

[Salah Khalaf] I believe he has changed. I feel that the death sentence passed on him and his colleagues is merely a matter of detail. The point now is for him to stop his operations and terrorist acts outside the occupied territories. We should consider this as a test, so to speak. If we are convinced that he has abandoned this activity, we will study the possibility of another meeting to continue our dialogue. We are now putting them to the test; one could also call it an examination.

[Chrudinak] As far as I know, 2 or 3 months have passed since your dialogue with him began. Has he carried out any terrorist actions since then?

[Salah Khalaf] No, not since the acts of terrorism in Vienna and Rome.

[Chrudinak] But he has committed others.

[Salah Khalaf] Before we met him. I believe Abu Nidal will issue a statement soon containing self-criticism for the execution of these various terrorist operations.

[Chrudinak] So is there hope that all the extremist groups and organizations, which have carried out terrorist actions in the past, will now come to their senses and finally stop these acts?

[Salah Khalaf] I think so, as the issue at hand is solely the Abu Nidal group. Apart from Abu Nidal, no other Palestinian organization has launched such attacks.

[Chrudinak] Only him?

[Salah Khalaf] Only Abu Nidal.

[Chrudinak] The convening of a Middle East conference, which you are also urging, has caused a serious crisis in the Israeli cabinet. A serious crisis has erupted over this issue between the right-wing prime minister, Shamir, and Foreign Minister Peres.

[Salah Khalaf] What is now happening there points up the existence of strong currents in Israel that want peace. Peres is striving to win over these political groups, which are demanding peace. Though it is true that the demand and desire for peace do not yet characterize those who make the decisions in Israel, in other words the largest ruling parties, there is a strong, popular trend in Israel demanding a just peace. Therefore, by supporting the idea of an international peace conference, Peres is not moving in a vacuum. After all, it is these very peace-loving forces he wants to win over. The Israelis have also had enough of war and of everything that has happened in the past. We need a lasting settlement, a just solution of the Palestinian issue, recognition of the PLO, and the creation of a Palestinian state. There are a great many shades of opinion in Israel. The resolution we adopted at the latest session of the Palestinian parliament encourages these peace-loving forces. This was the first time we officially called them Israeli and not Jewish progressive forces. We are ready to hold talks with these Israeli forces, and to debate with them on reconciliation and the future of Palestinian-Israeli relations.

[Chrudinak] Ezer Weizman, Israeli minister of state and party leader, said recently he would like to meet with Yasir 'Arafat and you, and is ready for talks with you about the future, and about recognition of the PLO and the Palestinian state. How did you reply, for this represents an enormous change in the halls of power?

[Salah Khalaf] That is truly correct. Weizman's statement was significant not because he is a minister, but because he represents Israeli public opinion.

[Chrudinak] He was previously minister of defense.

[Salah Khalaf] Defense, yes. I feel that this, too, is one of the signs of which we spoke. There is a strong popular current for peace in Israel. So, when Peres backs the peace conference, or Weizman wants to meet with 'Arafat to discuss the future of Palestinian-Israeli relations and the cause of the Palestinian state, this is something of great importance to Israel. We support this work.

[Chrudinak] Peres is probably demanding special elections. What do you expect from the Israeli elections?

[Salah Khalaf] I think this will be a test of Israeli public opinion, in which the political slogans of the past will be measured. I believe that the winners will be those who want peace in Israel and are tired of hatred. In any case, the climate of animosity is more dangerous than war, as a new war could break out at any time. We have but one choice: war or peace. If the present situation continues, so will the hatred between the two peoples. This, according to more and more people in Israel, threatens Israel at least as much as it does us. This is not something I invented.

Junblatt, PLO Examine Renewed Military Alliance
JN271854 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1802 GMT 27 May 87

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 27 May (WAM) — Press reports today said a Palestinian delegation of PLO political and military officials met with [Lebanese] PSP leader Walid Junblatt in Algiers on 25 May. *Al-Ittihad* quoted Arab diplomatic sources in Algiers as saying that Junblatt and the Palestinian officials discussed the revival of the alliance of the joint Lebanese-Palestinian forces. He also examined the coordination of both parties' actions in Lebanon to confront any possible Zionist aggression against Sidon and the surrounding areas.

INTRA-GULF AFFAIRS

Liberian-Registered Oil Tanker Hit in Gulf

LD271326 Kuwait KUNA in English 1149 GMT 27 May 87

[Text] Kuwait, 27 May KUNA — Authorized sources have said here today that an oil tanker registered in Liberia has been hit near Kuwaiti shores last night. The sources added that the cause of the damage inflicted on the ship has not been known yet and that investigations to identify the cause for the hole in ship's hull have been initiated.

These sources have informed KUNA that the oil was transferred from the stricken ship to another ship, and that the amount of the leaked oil was very small and no pollution was resulted after the leakage was dealt with and stopped.

These sources added that the tanker was towed to Al-Ahmadi port from the site of the accident 50 miles away opposite the port.

The tanker's deadweight is 200,000 tonnes of crude oil.

PDRY

PLO's 'Arafat, Delegation Arrive in Aden

*EA262058 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1815 GMT 26 May 87*

[Excerpt] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestine Revolution forces, arrived in Aden this evening. He is leading a delegation consisting of Brothers Zaki 'Abbas, Abd al-Rahim al-Tayib, and Al-Haj Ismail, members of the Fatah Revolutionary Council, on a visit to the PDRY that will last several days.

He was received on arrival at Aden Airport by Comrade Muhammad Sa'id 'Abdallah Muhsin, member of the YSP Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee; Brother Shayi Muhsin, deputy foreign minister; members of the PLO mission in Aden; the command of the Fatah Movement zone [as heard]; the Yarmuk forces command; and representatives of the Palestinian factions and the Palestinian popular organizations present in Aden. [passage omitted]

Confers With Al-'Attas

*EA271653 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
0430 GMT 27 May 87*

[Text] Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the YSP Political Bureau and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, met last night with Brother Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestine Revolution Forces, who is currently visiting our country. At the beginning of the meeting, Brother al-'Attas welcomed Brother Yasir 'Arafat to his homeland and congratulated him on the great success achieved by the 12th session of the PNC, which

managed to restore the Palestinian revolution's unity, role, and status under the leadership of the PLO.

Brother 'Arafat briefed Brother al-'Attas on the latest Palestinian developments; the escalation of the Palestinian national struggle against the Zionist enemy; and imperialist and Zionist plans, which seek not only to strike at the Palestinian revolution, but also at the Arab national liberation movement and its progressive forces and regimes, while following expansionist policies in the occupied Arab territories. The participants also reviewed the conditions in the Palestinian refugee camps in southern Lebanon, the barbarous Zionist raids to which the camps are being subjected, and the steadfastness of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories. There was also a review of Arab and Palestinian conditions and developments, the state of affairs in our country, the Palestinian revolution's stand toward these issues, and other matters of common interest.

During the meeting, Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas outlined the unlimited support of the party, government, and people of Democratic Yemen for the Palestinian revolution under the leadership of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. He stressed that the relations of struggle between the Yemeni and Palestinian revolutions are ties forged in a common fight against imperialism and Zionism.

Brother 'Arafat expressed his pleasure at meeting Brother al-'Attas and spoke of his appreciation of the role played by our country and its efforts in helping the PLO regain its unity. This was achieved at the recent PNC unification session. The meeting was also attended by Brother Muhammad Sa'id 'Abdallah Muhsin, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the YSP Central Committee.

Meets With Al-Bid, Departs

*EA281000 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1815 GMT 27 May 87*

[Excerpts] At a meeting this morning, Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestine Revolution Forces, and Brother 'Ali Salim al-Bid, the YSP secretary general, reviewed the latest Palestinian and Arab developments, with special emphasis on the continuing Israeli threats and aggression against the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon.

The brother secretary general stressed his country's principled and consistent support for the struggle of our Palestinian people under the PLO's leadership. He also expressed satisfaction and appreciation regarding the positive results attained at the 18th PNC session.

In reply, Abu 'Ammar expressed appreciation for the support given by the PDRY party, people, and government to our people's struggle.

The meeting was also attended by Brother Muhammad Sa'id 'Abdallah Muhsin, member of the Political Bureau, and Brothers Abbas Zaki, Al-Tayyib 'Abd al-Rahim, and Al-Haj Ismail, members of the Fatah Revolutionary Council. [passage omitted]

Brother Abu 'Ammar, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestine Revolution Forces, and his delegation left Aden this afternoon. He was seen off by Brother Muhammad Sa'id 'Abdallah Muhsin, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee.

SAUDI ARABIA

King Fahd Delivers Speech To Mark 'Id al-Fitr
LD272001 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1819 GMT 27 May 87

[Text] Mecca, 27 May, (SPA) — On the occasion of 'Id al-Fitr and in compliance with Islam's teachings, the custodian of the two holy mosques [King Fahd] has called upon his sons and brother citizens and the sons of the Arab and Muslim nations to take a moment for introspection to return to God in our affairs and actions. He also called on them to end the discord and to work with sincerity in defense of our faith, our homeland, and all that we hold sacred with all our energies and capabilities.

In a speech on the occasion, King Fahd said that with sincere determination, honest intentions, a unanimous stance, and a unified will, Islam will triumph and the banner of righteousness will be raised. No power on earth will be able to harm or divide us. He then indicated that in our long heroic and glorious history there are good examples for this.

King Fahd went on to say that from these pure lands and with God's help we have done, and are still doing, our best to bring people together and to unite them in harmony and brotherhood to serve our Islamic and Arab causes.

In his noble address, the custodian of the two holy mosques declared that the joyous occasion of 'Id al-Fitr was a good opportunity to ponder the reality of our Islamic nation and the threats and plots that surround it and the Arab nation from the enemies of our religion and Arabism.

The custodian of the two holy mosques spoke about the true situation in the Arab and Islamic nations on the occasion of the holy 'Id al-Fitr and said the 'Id reemerges and comes back while our Islamic nation continues to live through a series of murderous conflicts between brothers in blood, language, and faith. We are seeing a sad example of this in the long war between Iraq and Iran; we have witnessed it, ferocious and painful, in the events that took Lebanon by storm; we are witnessing it, unjust and tyrannical, in all the history written with the blood of martyrs in Afghanistan; and we see an example in the occasional sedition and disunity, and in the armed clashes between our brothers in some of the homelands at other times. Our primary issue, the liberation of Jerusalem, is waiting for us to hold fast to God's bond for the sons of Palestine to return to their homeland with their right to self-determination.

Ministry Announces Amnesty for Some Offenders
LD272159 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2020 GMT 27 May 87

[Excerpt][No dateline as received] A statement by an authorised source from the Ministry of Interior:

Since the advent of the glorious Ramadan, the month of forgiveness and mercy, the custodian of the two holy mosques [King Fahd], may God preserve him, has issued an amnesty for some prisoners who have committed offenses against the public right, in accordance with certain regulations based on the aspects of mercy and humanitarianism which the king has appreciated. The noble instructions said committees should be set up for this purpose and that the freeing of those pardoned should begin on the first day of Ramadan to enable them to fast with their families in this glorious month.

In accordance with the king's instructions, those included in the amnesty are people whose cases are simple and light, with some financial fines; those who have spent lengthy periods in prison and had a short period left of their sentences outstanding; and those who committed traffic offenses — barring those who were drunk or under the influence of drugs, or those drivers who fled the scene after an accident without assisting the victim, or those who did not have driver's licenses. The amnesty also covers prisoners over the age of 60, only sons whose parents or parent need him to care for them, and minors who became involved in matters without appreciating their consequences — barring those with prior convictions. Border crimes and serious criminal cases are excluded, except for those who have a short period of their sentences outstanding. This will show them that a wrong has been met with a right and that evil has met with pardon. Thus, perhaps they will come back to their senses and become good citizens.

The committees set up for this purpose have freed more than 5,000 Saudi and foreign prisoners and they continue their work. In addition, offenders against the private right who face the payment of blood money or private debts, according to the instructions of the custodian of the two holy mosques, are to be freed after people of goodwill, may God reward them, have made the payments on their behalf before 1/9/1407 [first day of Ramadan 1987], and those whose inability to pay has been proved in accordance with the Shari'a. [passage omitted]

YAR

Foreign Minister Discusses Recent U.S. Visit
PM221501 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic
22 May 87 pp 26-27

[Interview with Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, by Raghidah Dirgham in Washington during the minister's "recent visit"]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] From both the Arab and U.S. perspectives, the Washington visit by a delegation of the seven-man committee set up by the Arab League has been considered a success. In view of this fact, *Al-Hawadith* met in Washington with the head of the delegation, YAR Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, and talked with him about what took place during the visit and what it is expected to lead to. The three-man delegation consisted of Dr al-Iryani, Bahrain Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad bin Mubarak al-Khalifah, and Iraqi Foreign Under Secretary Wisam al-Zahawi. President Ronald Reagan received the delegation for more than 20 minutes. Present at the meeting were

Secretary of State George Shultz and Vice President George Bush.

The dialogue with Dr al-Iryani dealt with U.S.-Yemeni bilateral issues and relations and the present state of relations between the two parts of Yemen.

Al-Hawadith: One of the results achieved by the Arab League delegation in Washington was that the United States expressed its conviction of the need to activate the Security Council machinery and its acceptance of the principle of imposing sanctions on the party that rejects its resolutions, that is, Iran. Was this the result of a request by you or was it an initiative by the Americans?

Dr al-Iryani: We came with the intention of making this request but, to be honest, they were already moving in this direction when we arrived, thanks, of course, to Iraqi efforts. Before we arrived there were indications that new U.S. convictions had begun to emerge, including the belief that the Security Council should add a mechanism to Resolution 582 in order to impose sanctions on the party that rejects peace efforts. But since the delegation came armed with an Arab consensus — as we told Mr Shultz — for the first time since the outbreak of this Iraq-Iran war, this consensus has given a new impetus to the endorsement of this stand. Therefore, when we arrived with this request and found that there is already a belief in the need for this our mission boiled down to urging the Americans to convince the rest of the Security Council member-states of the same thing.

Al-Hawadith: Three of the major Security Council members are Western countries, namely the United States, Britain, and France. Also, a number of other industrial states, such as Japan, that will meet in Venice next month have privileged relations with Iran. Did the United States promise to make efforts with its Western allies on the Security Council for them to adopt its stand of supporting the imposition of sanctions against Iran?

Dr al-Iryani: The delegation did ask for such a thing. We said the convocation of the Venice conference — six of whose seven participants are Security Council members — is an opportunity to raise the matter. We said that this is a good opportunity for the heads of state of these countries to hold consultations on the subject.

Al-Hawadith: What was the answer to the request?

Dr al-Iryani: We sensed a responsiveness, but in fact I cannot say that they answered "Yes, we will submit the matter for discussion." But the idea in itself was considered to be a good idea.

Al-Hawadith: Let us talk about Britain in particular, which claims to object to the imposition of sanctions as a matter of principle. The impression, therefore, is that the United States will not pressure its ally to change a principled stance. Britain has therefore adopted a political — not an executive — stand, well aware that the council will be unable to impose these sanctions. What is your opinion of this?

Dr al-Iryani: The British stand is well known to us and we have heard it from them on several occasions. They believe that sanctions are ineffective. China also remains reluctant in this regard. Germany, a nation which I visited a week before arriving in Washington, is among the nonpermanent members of the Security Council who are hesitant on this matter. I felt that, as a matter of principle, Germany too does not favor the imposition of sanctions by the council. But in my opinion there is total U.S.-Soviet agreement on the need to adopt such a resolution. However, I would like to point out that adopting such a resolution is one thing and ensuring the imposition and implementation of sanctions is another. I believe that any country, be it a Security Council member or not, will find out, when the matter is put to discussion, that it does not involve any hostile action, either against the country that votes on it or against Iran. This is not a hostile action against Iran, so it should not be strongly opposed. In the final analysis what will be said to Iran through such a resolution is: Come and negotiate in accordance with international law and with your full rights. It is true that some countries are hesitant but I would predict that the resolution will be adopted.

Al-Hawadith: When you say that there is a U.S.-Soviet agreement do you mean agreement on imposing sanctions on Iran?

Dr al-Iryani: Yes, it is agreement on imposing sanctions.

Al-Hawadith: Did you obtain guarantees in this regard from the Soviet Union?

Dr al-Iryani: I personally was not a member of the delegation that went to Moscow, but according to my information the Soviet Union was quite understanding and pointed out that U.S. cooperation in this respect is necessary. We have now guaranteed U.S. cooperation. [passage omitted]

Al-Hawadith: What is the objective? Is the purpose of this move to isolate Iran and to bring pressure to bear on it through the two superpowers, particularly since the Arab move will have to include Syria's approval?

Dr al-Iryani: The aim behind the Arab move in the final analysis is peace; we aim at peace. This move is one way to convince Iran to come to the negotiating table.

Al-Hawadith: Is the intention to isolate Iran in order to convince it of this objective?

Dr al-Iryani: It is better to say that we are looking for ways to convince Iran of peace and not to isolate Iran. Iran needs to get everything from abroad in view of its war-devasted economy. Certainly, if sanctions are imposed sources of arms and basic commodities will become scarce. This will generate a ground swell that would persuade the Iranian side to come to the negotiating table.

Al-Hawadith: Did you discuss with the Americans the security and stability of the area and the guaranteeing of freedom of navigation, as well as to what extent the countries of the area and the United States will cooperate in this regard?

Dr al-Iryani: The objective of this committee includes an important matter, which is not to subdivide the conflict. There is a political conflict and there are the symptoms of this conflict. The agreement within the Arab League is not to discuss matters partially. The question of peace must be discussed as a whole. It is not desirable for us to say: Come, let us cooperate in achieving freedom of navigation in the Gulf or in protecting a state being threatened by Iran. [passage omitted]

Al-Hawadith: There is a school of thought which says that meeting your delegation's demands was coincidental with serving U.S. interests, particularly since the U.S. Administration needs to take a firm stand on Iran while Congress is currently discussing details of the secret arms deal with Iran. So it was in the U.S. interest to exploit the delegation's visit to advertise a stand which is based on its interests rather than on any change in its attitude toward the Arabs. What is your opinion of this explanation?

Dr al-Iryani: First of all, politics are mutual interests. If conditions are more conducive for the United States to adopt such a decision, why should we be angry? Why should we detract from the importance of this decision? The objective we came for and which we have sought more than once before but were never able to get a response to has now been achieved. There could also be other reasons for this attitude but, as I said, this does not detract from the decision, which has achieved the objective for which we came.

Al-Hawadith: What about U.S.-Yemeni relations? You once spoke about a visit by President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to the United States and the Soviet Union, and then the two visits were postponed. Did you discuss fixing a date for this visit during your stay in Washington?

Dr al-Iryani: There was not enough time to discuss this matter in detail; we discussed it briefly because time was short. It would take a long meeting to settle the question of the visit and its preparations. The visit has not been canceled and still stands in principle. But we need more than a short visit to discuss arrangements. Maybe a delegation will come to Washington, or maybe I will come, because the matter needs more than 15 minutes to arrange. [passage omitted]

Al-Hawadith: What were the reasons for postponing the visit to the Soviet Union?

Dr al-Iryani: This was because of the Reykjavik summit. The visit was in fact about to take place but the Reykjavik summit intervened and it had to be postponed. Discussions to fix a date for the visit are now under way. Members of the last Soviet delegation to visit Sanaa last month said that they will consult a suitable date with us at the earliest possible time. [passage omitted]

AL-AKHBAR Comments on Assassination Attempts
NC280713 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2310 GMT 27 May 87

[Text] Cairo, 27 May (MENA)—The newspaper *Al-Akhbar* has denounced the desperate attempts to create tension in Egypt and to delude the world into believing that this country is unstable and unsafe.

Commenting on the criminal attempt on the lives of some U.S. Embassy personnel, as well as the treacherous attempt to assassinate former Interior Minister Hasan Abu Basha, the paper said the incidents were despicable acts of treason. It said the aims of the attacks were to deprive Egypt of the benefits of its reform and development efforts, to undermine tourism, and to scare off foreign investment.

In an editorial to be published tomorrow, *Al-Akhbar* says such foolish attempts will not scare anybody. They will not shake the world's confidence in this country, nor will they undermine its freedom, democracy, or security. The paper asserts that such attacks will not succeed in disturbing Egypt's stability, which is unique in the Arab world and the Middle East.

These attempts, the paper adds, are frequent throughout the world and impossible to prevent, particularly in cities with millions of inhabitants. Compared with many U.S. and European cities, Cairo should be considered one of the calmest and safest places in the world.

Al-Akhbar issues a warning to those who work under cover of darkness: They will eventually be caught and severely punished, whether they work on their own or for foreign parties interested in destabilizing Egypt.

Suspects in Abu Basha Shooting Arrested

NC271502 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1435 GMT 27 May 87

[Text] Cairo, 27 May (MENA)—MENA has learned that the Egyptian security department has arrested the suspects in the assassination attempt against former Interior Minister Hasan Abu Basha, after they were positively identified. They are from one of the governorates in Lower Egypt. The Interior Ministry is expected to announce the results of its interrogation of the suspects soon.

It should be noted that the fingerprints of the accused match those found on the soft drink bottles which one of the culprits bought from a nearby kiosk just before the assassination attempt.

Soviet Mediation Between Libya, Egypt 'Success'

PM261532 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 24 May 87 p 1

[Abd al-Nabi 'Abd al-Sattar report: "Soviet Mediation To Resolve Differences Between Egypt and Libya"]

[Text] *Al-Wafd* has learned that the Soviet Union recently tried to mediate between Egypt and Libya to ease the tension between them. The Soviet leadership is currently holding high-level con-

sultations with political leaders in both countries to bring them closer together and resolve their serious differences.

Al-Wafd has learned that these efforts have achieved considerable success following the exchange of written messages between President Husni Mubarak and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, and the announcement by Cairo that it is willing to receive a Libyan Air Force crew to fly back two SS-130 (Chinook) [as published] aircraft. In return, Egypt has insisted that the three Egyptians kidnapped by the Libyan Armed Forces on the border be released and that the Libyans compensate the 100,000 Egyptians they expelled. *Al-Wafd* has also discovered that the political leadership has ordered the suspension of media campaigns against Libya as a goodwill gesture. Libya, in turn, stopped its campaigns against Egypt at the beginning of the month.

The Soviet efforts followed the recent tangible improvement in relations between Cairo and Moscow, and Egypt's refusal to give military aid to Chad in its fight against the Libyans. Egypt has also rejected the U.S. Government's request to send Egyptian military forces and advisers to Chad to support President Hissain Habre.

Al-Wafd has also learned that elements from the PLO and the YAR are working to resolve the disputes between Egypt and Libya.

Mubarak Speaks on Foreign, Domestic Issues

JN271603 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic
25 May 87 pp 1, 5

[Excerpts] President Husni Mubarak has asked the political parties to keep the Armed Forces out of partisan politics. He affirmed that the Armed Forces are the basic pillar of stability and development and the defender of the homeland's security. He added that the parties must purge their ranks of all those who attempt to encroach on the homeland's security. He said the majority and the opposition are in the same boat, and that this matter is everyone's responsibility.

Mubarak announced that our agreement with the IMF has confirmed the world's confidence in the Egyptian economic program and its development capability. He added that debts do not frighten the people, as long as the debts are kept under control.

Mubarak affirmed that Egypt has no ulterior motives for its support of Palestinian issues. He said the Egyptian people take a single national stand on the pan-Arab issues. He added: We do not concede our dignity; we support the unity of Palestinian factions but not at the expense of Egypt.

Mubarak noted Egypt's strenuous efforts to convene an international conference to resolve the Palestine question. The president affirmed the importance of continuing the peace process and achieving economic development in the coming years, just as we have in the past 5 years. He affirmed that democracy is the way to achieve progress and prosperity, and stressed the need to make available the job opportunities mentioned in the new 1987-1992 development plan. He also asserted the importance of exports in

the Egyptian economy. President Husni Mubarak made these comments on 23 May during an expanded meeting at NDP Headquarters. The meeting was held to discuss the draft 5-year development plan to be implemented at the beginning of July. Domestic and foreign issues were also addressed. [passage omitted]

President Mubarak asked the Egyptian political parties to rise to the level of nationalism and to consider national security above all else — both the majority and opposition — because everyone is in the same boat. He also called on the parties to keep the Armed Forces out of party practices, because they are the backbone of the homeland and people's safety. He added that the government is not just the ruling party, but all the parties and existing departments.

President Mubarak touched on the report published in a party newspaper on the existence of a secret organization within the Armed Forces. He said this report is groundless, adding that any false reports published by the press might harm Egypt's economy, development, and stability. He affirmed that democracy is in the people's general interest and that all Egyptians must be concerned for their country's stability, interests, freedom, and democracy. Mubarak said the president should not have to intervene and legislate on all issues.

Responding to a question, Mubarak said debts do not scare the people as long as they can control them in the economy's interest. He said: We exerted great efforts with our creditors. France's support was unlimited, and all countries, particularly the United States and the FRG, understood our cause.

Answering questions by NDP members on the Egyptian stand on the PLO leadership, Mubarak said: Egypt does not take emotional stands; rather, it takes stands after objective study of all positions and events. He added that Egypt is not divided, and that the Egyptian people are not split into two groups — the progressive, national forces and the unpatriotic forces. No Egyptian accepts such a concept. Mubarak said: We do not concede our dignity. We support the unity of Palestinian factions, and I have affirmed this to 'Arafat many times. However, this unity must not be at Egypt's expense.

Mubarak said that Egypt supports the Palestinian people's cause out of its leading position in the region. He added that Egypt played an effective role which made the entire world support the proposed international conference. He said: Egypt supports the Palestine question with no ulterior motives. We have endured a great deal; therefore, we must be treated with respect and appreciation.

President Mubarak was asked about Egypt's stand on the Gulf war. He said: Our stand on this war and the need to end it has not changed. [passage omitted]

'Abd al-Majid on Gulf War, Peace Conference
NC271655 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1430 GMT 27 May 87

[Text] Cairo, 27 May (MENA) — Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has warned of an

escalation in the Gulf war in light of recent events and increased [word indistinct] military presence in the Gulf. He said that the possibility of unintentional clashes exists and that it is difficult to deal with incidents resulting from miscalculations in this sensitive region, the petroleum artery for Western countries and Japan.

In an interview with the Egyptian magazine *Al-Musawwar*, to be published Friday, Dr 'Abd al-Majid stressed that Kuwait's request that superpowers protect its oil tankers falls within its right to defend itself and protect its interests, so long as Iranian acts of aggression against that country continue. Dr 'Abd al-Majid held Iran responsible for the serious developments in the Gulf, saying: In our view, Iran has brought about the current situation. He expressed hope that this situation could be contained, that all parties would exercise self-control, and that a new phase of negotiations would replace the crushing 7-year war between Iran and Iraq. Dr 'Abd al-Majid affirmed Egypt's full support for Iraq, which is defending its soil and is a protective shield for the Gulf region. He said Iran still insists on using armed force, despite the fact that it has failed more than once to resolve the situation militarily. He added that it is the responsibility of the five great powers in this conflict that they not supply arms to the party opposed to peace.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid called for an international peace conference in the Middle East this year, stressing that a direct dialogue would result from it. Direct negotiations, he said, would not be possible without an international conference. He added: We must help the parties concerned initiate this conference, leaving some details for the later stage when the conference is in session. 'Abd al-Majid noted that the convocation of this meeting would create what he termed the dynamics of peace, which might prompt several parties to change their stands and accept what they initially rejected. 'Abd al-Majid noted that inflexible preconditions could hamper the convocation of the conference.

'Abd al-Majid was asked about Egypt's stand on Palestinian representation at the international conference in light of the Belgian foreign minister's remarks after his latest tour of the region. The Belgian minister said some of the Arab countries he had visited rejected direct PLO representation at the peace talks. 'Abd al-Majid responded: The Belgian foreign minister has given me no confirmation of this remark. We cannot take random remarks seriously; their accuracy must be determined. Within this context, Dr 'Abd al-Majid referred to Egypt's explicit stand on Palestinian representation, which asserts that the PLO should have a role in the negotiations and in Palestinian representation. However, he said, Egypt believes that the participation of a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation may be a proper, practical formula to get the negotiations started, though perhaps not the ideal solution.

Commenting on the PLO's refusal to recognize UN Resolutions 242 and 338, 'Abd al-Majid said the PLO has original ideas in this respect, and it has a right to declare its stand. He noted that Egypt supports the UN resolutions because they incorporate basic principles of international relations, provided the phrase "the Palestinian people's right to self-determination" is added. 'Abd al-Majid continued: I have told this to Brother Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, and other Pal-

estinian leaders more than once; however, it is evident they are not convinced by our words. I repeat: This is our stand, and the PLO has the right to adopt whatever stand it deems suitable.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid noted that Resolution 242 was passed in 1967, without consideration being given to the Palestinian issue in the United Nations. The Palestinian issue was not raised there until 1972, by Egypt. He said that Resolution 242 sets out several basic principles of international relations; foremost among them are the illegitimacy of taking lands by force, the withdrawal from occupied territories, the right of all countries to live in peace and security within their borders, and the peaceful settlement of international problems. Resolution 338 establishes the concept

of an international conference. 'Abd al-Majid then asked: Why does the PLO reject these resolutions?

Referring to Egyptian-Palestinian relations after the tension which arose following the PNC's recent resolutions, 'Abd al-Majid stressed that Egypt has never opposed unity among Palestinian factions. At the same time, he said, it cannot accept what happened at the Algiers conference in terms of relations with Egypt, noting that the unexpected events there left a deep scar. He said that Egypt views the Palestinian issue as a pan-Arab cause affecting the fraternal Palestinian people and the region as a whole.

Communique No 2,690 Details 26-27 May Combat
JN271658 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1611 GMT 27 May 87

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 27 May (INA) — Iraqi helicopters today carried out 70 combat missions against enemy units in the operational sectors, inflicting further losses. Communique No 2,690 issued by the Armed Forces General Command here tonight said Iraqi forces at the port of Al-'Amiq used all types of weapons to confront three enemy boats that tried to approach the harbor. One of the boats was hit and the other two fled.

The communique added that the Iraqi forces killed four Iranians, and seized or destroyed weapons and military equipment in the operational areas.

The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 2,690 issued by the Armed Forces General Command

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. [passage omitted] The following are the results of our heroic units' operations for last night and today:

1. Our brave helicopter pilots have continued their capable combat operations in the operational sectors, inflicting new losses on the rascal Khomeynites in 70 combat missions before returning to base in God's care.
2. Three enemy boats attempted to approach Al-'Amiq, but the port's forces confronted them with all types of weapons, hitting one and forcing the others to flee.
3. Our brave formations in the IV Army Corps sector east of Maysan continued to direct their fire at enemy units before them, inflicting further losses on the Khomeynites. Confirmed enemy losses were the destruction of an 81-mm mortar, a vehicle, a medium machinegun, five ammunition dumps, and four infantry positions. An enemy soldier was also killed.
4. One of our units in the I Army Corps northern sector attacked an 11-man patrol, killing a number of them and forcing the others to flee. Elsewhere in the same sector, two of the enemy knaves were killed and two weapons were seized.
5. One enemy soldier was killed and two gun emplacements were destroyed in the VII Army Corps front.
6. In the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah, the enemy's engineering works, troop concentrations, and vehicles were attacked. Six weapons were captured and an ammunition dump was destroyed.

The Armed Forces General Command, 27 May 1987

Paper Condemns Syrian-Israeli 'Understanding'
JN271449 Baghdad AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic
 24 May 87 p 2

[Hasan Kamil commentary: "Awaiting Tel Aviv's Green Light"]

[Text] There has been quite a fuss about a possible Syrian expansion toward the city of Sidon in the past few months. And from time to time, general outlines of various scenarios concerning the way in which Hafiz al-Asad's forces would enter the city are leaked. One of these scenarios provides for the implementation of a phased plan, the first part of which states that the Syrian forces would enter the Sidon area. Then the second phase, in which the Syrian forces would enter Sidon and the surrounding camps, would be implemented. In addition to this plan, there are others for expansion toward Sidon through Jazzin or the coastal road. And now the Syrian regime is talking about a naval plan to enter Sidon from the sea.

The previous schemes or plans have one thing in common: None of them has a time limit for implementation, which would bring about a Syrian deployment in the area despite implicit or explicit statements saying the execution of any of the previous plans depends on the completion of the current contacts between the Damascus regime on the one hand and regional and international parties on the other.

Political observers have asserted that Al-Asad's regime is continuing its contacts, especially with the Zionists, to remove any misunderstanding, confusion, or ambiguity concerning the upcoming Syrian step and to reach a formula of understanding between the two sides.

The observers added that the recent face-to-face meeting at the Almaron Hotel in the Austrian capital between an adviser to the Syrian ruler and a Zionist personality is part of the contacts being held by Al-Asad's regime on this matter. Informed sources stated that the signals coming from both Tel Aviv and Damascus support the reports concerning the existence of a Zionist-Al-Asadist understanding on Syrian deployment in Sidon. The fact that senior Zionist army officers ruled out the possibility of a war between Al-Asad's regime and the Zionist entity is one of the strong signals confirming this understanding.

All that has been said shows that the Syrian forces' deployment in Sidon hinges on putting the final touches to certain points of the plan, which will take into account the so-called requirements of Zionist security. Considering the previous givens, we can say that the Syrian expansion toward Sidon will basically seek to strike at the Palestinian resistance in this city, which has the biggest Palestinian concentration (about 80,000 people). This step is necessary for the Syrian regime because the last PNC meeting confirmed that this regime has lost all the Palestinian cards for independent Palestinian decisionmaking — a process that was emphasized by the Palestinian national unity that materialized after the Algiers conference. This trend can be considered a point of convergence between Al-Asad's regime on the one hand and the Zionists and some local Lebanese agents on the other.

Statements by political leaders in Sidon have revealed that the Syrian regime has covered up its intervention by engineering battles among the Palestinians themselves or between the Palestinians and the Lebanese in the camps area near the city.

While awaiting the Zionist green light, the Syrian regime asked its allies and agents to exacerbate the situation in Beirut and other Lebanese areas. By so doing, this regime seeks to keep the contact lines hot to pave the way for moving the battle to southern Lebanon when a favorable response comes from Tel Aviv.

Some of the allies of Al-Asad's regime in southern Lebanon have become certain that the Sidon battle is coming. Hence, they have begun to prepare for this through the dissolution of the Amal gangs' southern Lebanon leadership and their formation of an emergency committee to lead their elements there chaired by Amal's senior official in Tyre, a man well known for his implacable hostility toward the Palestinians; for his repeated contacts with the Zionists after the Zionist invasion of southern Lebanon; and for his continuous coordination with the enemy, which has continued up to the present.

To help assemble the picture, we can make the following remarks:

1. There is a Zionist-Al-Asadist agreement on a common objective — ending the Palestinian presence in Lebanon. The Zionists seek this objective because the Palestinian presence undermines the so-called Zionist security theory, while Al-Asad's regime seeks it because that is the only way to mortgage Palestinian decisionmaking and use it as a card in the settlement conspiracy.
2. The Zionist leaders do not object to the presence in southern Lebanon of any force that can curb the resistance against their presence in the so-called security belt area, especially since the militias of agent Antoine Lahd have proved incapable of confronting the national resistance carried out by the Lebanese and the Palestinians.
3. The Amal gangs in southern Lebanon are now headed by elements that harbor greater enmity and hostility toward the Palestinians. These indicators illustrate the nature of the dangerous escalation taking place in southern Lebanon, where only an excuse is needed for a conflagration. And how many are the excuses that will be used once the Zionist blessing arrives!

AL-THAWRAH Columnist Assails Syrian Actions

JN271821 Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 25 May 87 p 2

["A Stand" column by Faysal Zaki: "So That Arab Solidarity Will Not Remain Blocked"]

[Text] Everybody knows that comprehensive Arab solidarity is blocked by a direct and official decision by the Syrian regime. That regime raises obstacles and conditions, vetoes the presence of this or that party, calls for discussing one subject and excluding another, and rejects any questions about its conspiratorial role in this or that country or regarding this or that issue despite the damage it has done to Arab struggle and to common Arab action.

This fact prompts us to wonder why the Syrian regime gives itself all these rights and which sides give it that role and surround it with this halo, although it is not practically qualified to play any effective regional or Arab role other than the negative role that is amply clear to everybody.

The current Syrian situation and Syria's economic and political crises under the tyrannical, factional, and terrorist regime have deprived it of its intrinsic power inside Syria. How can a regime that is rejected, isolated, and internally weak become strong and effective in its regional and Arab environment if it is not supported by foreign forces and if it is not entrusted with a conspiratorial role within the framework of anti-Arab schemes and programs?

Narrow personal interests and the scheming foreign role have motivated this regime to expand its circle of influence and to affect Arab decision in a way that is hostile to the higher pan-Arab interests. Many shameful incidents and stands make us affirm that the only principle in the Syrian regime's course is to concoct plots and to practice terrorism. On this basis, the Syrian regime has practiced all forms of political and financial blackmail, sowed sedition, planted mines, created problems, formed axes, and squirted out the poison of divisions and fragmentation on the official, popular, political, and trade unionist levels.

As the Syrian regime's cards have been burned and exposed, particularly the cards of Lebanon, the Palestine question, and the evil alliance with Khomeyni's Iran, the card of Arab solidarity and the attempts to impose trusteeship over Arab politics and decisionmaking have also been burned as a result of the blatant contradiction between slogans and stands, as well as between claims and real behavior. Those who are concerned about Arab solidarity do not violate Arab charters, obstruct an Arab summit, dismember Arab ranks, conclude secret agreements with the Zionist enemy, or seek an alliance with a racist enemy with designs on Arab territory like the Khomeyniite enemy.

The Syrian regime's double standards and the sharp contradiction between its words and deeds have become one of its known basic features. This has helped expose the falsehood of the shining slogans the Al-Asad regime raises, trades with, and uses for maneuvering, consumption, and blackmail — slogans such as steadfastness and confrontation, confronting imperialism and Zionism, Arab unity, strategic parity, rejecting capitulatory solutions, Lebanon's unity, and supporting the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese national resistance. Hafiz al-Asad has emptied these slogans of the factors of their implementation. He has in fact tarnished these slogans, emptied them of their meaning, and undermined the positive attempts by good people to implement them.

Thus, we find that the theory of imposing trusteeship which the Syrian regime is trying to put into practice in the Arab world is a failure in form and content. We also find that the factors of strength claimed and exploited by that regime to propagate its theory and slogans are weak and exposed. They conflict with the

known, accepted facts for achieving an effective and comprehensive Arab solidarity that confronts the grave challenges and dangers facing our Arab nation; that contributes effectively to solving the political and economic problems facing our Arab countries and threatening our national security; that serves our pan-Arab interests and reinforces our unity and our common Arab action; that respects Arab charters and treaties, and that abides by Arab treaties, agreements, and resolutions, including the Arab summit and Arab League resolutions.

Time is not on the side of those whose only occupation is to spoil Arab awakening, trade with the nation's causes, and seek alliance with the nation's enemies whether they are Zionist racists or evil Shu'ubists. If they are awaiting a price or a prize for their shameful acts and crimes against the nation, it is time they themselves paid the price of their conspiracies, terrorism, and treason. It is also time the Arabs achieved real solidarity away from the maneuvers and one-upmanship of the so-called Arabs, headed by the Hafiz al-Asad regime.

AL-DUSTUR on Attack on U.S. Diplomats in Cairo
JN271045 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
27 May 87 pp 1, 19

[Unattributed news analysis: "The Incident of the U.S. Diplomats in Egypt"]

[Text] Another important incident has occurred, the implications of which are larger than the episode itself. Unidentified individuals shot at three employees of the U.S. Embassy in Cairo yesterday morning as they were driving to work.

It is not yet known whether Dennis Williams, the chief of security for the embassy and other embassies in the region, was the target of the assault, or if the perpetrators wanted just any American diplomat. However, it is important to note the following:

1. About 3 weeks ago former Egyptian Interior Minister Hasan Abu Basha was wounded in an assassination attempt. This action was linked to religious extremists in Egypt. The shooting led to a break in diplomatic relations between Egypt and Iran. It has been proven that Iran financed some extremist religious movements in Egypt. Iran has also financed similar groups in Tunisia, Morocco, and Kuwait.

2. Although yesterday's attack on the three U.S. diplomats resulted only in superficial wounds hardly worth mentioning, world news agencies have been captivated by it. For very important reasons, it has emerged as a significant incident. The first point is that the organization which claimed responsibility for the attack also claimed the August 1985 assassination attempt on an Israeli diplomat in Cairo and another Israeli employee in March 1986 after the Cairo book fair.

The second is that, when it comes to Egypt, this group links everything Israeli with everything American. These incidents took place at wide intervals and there are many possibilities to consider, including the involvement of foreign intelligence organizations or forces. However, one may assume that, among several other possibilities, a group of Egyptians exists that takes responsibility for confronting Israel and the United States. It is indicative of the feelings of ordinary Egyptians that this was the only organization to claim responsibility now and in the past.

3. The violence and terrorism in the region, which begin with Lebanon and end with all the conflicts and tension in the area and the impact of this terrorism on world capitals, express the region's crisis in the face of frustration and despair. They are also a way of confronting the larger terrorism sponsored by Zionism and the West. They are particularly opposed to U.S. support for this terrorism, which denies Arab rights, usurps the freedom of thousands of Arabs and their land, and practices the most hideous forms of repression and expulsion. The violence and terrorism in the region is also a response to the daily wars that Israel wages on the camps and against unarmed innocents in southern Lebanon.

This bitter situation prompts desperate reactions and humiliates the Palestinian nation each day. At the same time, the Zionist enemy, supported by the United States, denies the Palestinian nation's human rights. As a result of this tense situation, explosions and acts of violence occur. We are quite certain that violent incidents and episodes launched by individuals or groups neither solve our problem nor serve our great objectives. We are not trying to justify frustration, despair, or emotional reactions. However, we realize that all these emotional responses and individual acts of violence have reasons and causes that must be addressed and removed.

Front Leaders, Al-Jumayyil Hold 'Identical' Views
NC271351 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
 1300 GMT 27 May 87

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil received a Lebanese Front delegation this afternoon. The group included Phalangist Party leader Dr George Sa'adah, National Liberal Party leader Dany Sham'un, Deputy Edward Hunayn, and Al-Tanzim Party leader George 'Udwan. After the meeting, which lasted until 1500, Deputy Hunayn said: The times in which we live demand constant consultations among the various Lebanese parties to rescue Lebanon from the mess it is in. This is what prompted our visit to his excellency the president and this was the subject of our conversation. Our discussion was wholly devoted to a review of all the current issues and problems. We were delighted to learn that our views on how to deal with today's problems were completely identical to those of his excellency the president.

Amal Differences, Karami-Al-Husayni Discord Noted
NC280831 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon
 in Arabic 0745 GMT 28 May 87

[Text] The latest edition of the magazine *Al-Shira'* notes that the differences which emerged in the ranks of the Amal Movement last week assumed a regional dimension that threatened the movement's unity. This prompted an adroit retreat from some of the reorganizational steps the movement was about to take, which had been the original cause of the discord.

In another development, *Al-Shira'* says all attempts to bring together Speaker Husayn al-Husayni and Prime Minister Rashid Karami have failed. The magazine attributes the disagreement and estrangement between the two men to the fact that Karami did not consult Al-Husayni before tendering his resignation.

Al-Husayni Denies 'Differences'
NC281120 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
 1030 GMT 28 May 87

[Text] Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni left for Ba'labakk today for the 'Id al-Fitr holiday. Before his departure, he made the following statement: Some daily newspapers and weekly magazines have been reporting differences between Speaker al-Husayni and Prime Minister Rashid Karami, as if they wanted such problems to exist. I assure those who spread such reports that my relationship with Prime Minister Karami is stable and cannot be affected by such tendentious rumors. Our ties are based on a commitment to a policy governed by unchanging principles.

Fadlallah on 'Rapprochement' With Communists
NC280836 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon
 in Arabic 0745 GMT 28 May 87

[Text] Scholar Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah has asserted that it is natural, from the ideological point of view, that the Marxist trend should conflict with the essence of Islam. However, he said, it is quite possible to have common stands in a number of phases.

Informed sources have interpreted Fadlallah's position as reflecting a temporary rapprochement between the communists and Hizballah, who share a hatred for the Amal Movement, particularly in the south.

Arab Democratic Party Leader Target of Bomb
NC271935 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
 1915 GMT 27 May 87

[Text] An explosion in a building adjacent to the American School in the Ba'l Muhsein section of Tripoli has killed a child and injured nine people. The building was severely damaged. The explosive charge was estimated at 5 kg of TNT.

The Lebanese Liberation Front Organization-Fityan-Ali was cited as claiming responsibility for the blast. The group said: We detonated an explosive charge at 1745 in the building where Muhammad Shihadah, the official in charge of the Arab Democratic Party, lives, opposite the villa of party leader 'Ali 'Id.

Hizballah Official Injured in Car Bomb Blast
NC271106 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
 1945 GMT 27 May 87

[Text] We have just received the following report: Hizballah official Ibrahim 'Atwah was the target of an assassination attempt at 1100 today. As he was leaving the Al-Shahuri Mosque in Al-Ghaziyyah in the south, a booby-trapped car exploded right next to him. 'Atwah was injured in the blast and was later taken to Shu'ayb Hospital. A tense atmosphere now prevails between the Amal Movement and Hizballah.

Israelis Reportedly Shell Southern Villages
NC280938 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
 0915 GMT 28 May 87

[Text] At about 0530 today, Israeli forces shelled Zillaya and Libbaya in the western Al-Biq'a'. Meanwhile, Israeli helicopters combed the areas encompassed by Kafr Huna, (Qillaya), and Zillaya.

Two Israeli helicopters were also seen flying near an Israeli gunship sighted off Sidon this afternoon.

'Resistance' Attacks Israeli Settlement
NC271207 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
 1030 GMT 27 May 87

[Text] According to a statement from the resistance forces, resistance fighters attacked the settlement of Ramim with grad rockets at dawn today, scoring direct hits and causing a number of casualties. The enemy radio admitted the operation in its morning newscast, but claimed there were no casualties.

In another development, agent Antoine Lahd's radio admitted that two Lahd forces' personnel were injured last night in the security zone established by Israel. One of the men was hit by a

bullet as he was searching the village of 'Aynata; the other was wounded by sniper fire in Dayr Siryan. The radio also said shells had fallen near Jazzin, but did not indicate whether there had been any fatalities.

Meanwhile, resistance fighters bombarded an agent position in the region of Buslayya in the Jazzin district, causing loss of life. The militia later mounted an extensive search operation in the area.

Refugees Committee Denounces Amal Arrests
NC271233 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain
in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 27 May 87

[Text] The Committee of Displaced Nationalist and Democratic Persons From the South issued a statement today, affirming that the campaign of arrests being carried out by Amal Movement members has involved more than 60 people so far. These arrests highlight an insistence on deepening the rift among the people of the same area, the statement declared, adding that the arrests do not serve the desire to strengthen the steadfastness of our kinfolk in their villages, but rather increase their sufferings and pain.

In addition, the statement said: While condemning such actions, the displaced people's committee is surprised at the continuation of these arrests at a time when attempts are being made to resolve matters in the south and change the situation there from one of conflict and division to one of alliance and unity.

The committee appealed to the nationalist and Islamic forces and personalities that care for the future of the south, particularly Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din (deputy chairman of

the Higher Islamic Shi'ite Council], to work for the release of the detainees.

Amal Denies Allegations
NC271939 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 27 May 87

[Statement issued by the Amal Movement's Central Information Office; date and place not given]

[Text] Some national information media have been circulating false reports about arrests made by the Amal Movement in southern villages. The Amal Movement denies these stories completely. We also assure those who show false concern about the south that it is not our custom to arrest people merely on suspicion or to kill detainees, as has happened in some parts of the country.

We call on these media to stop using such cheap methods and making these groundless charges, the sole purpose of which is to cover up the crimes of the heroes of the garbage dumps (those who throw sticks of dynamite at trash-filled lots) in West Beirut, who are known to all and whose affiliations have been exposed.

SLA Releases 46 Al-Khiyam Prison Detainees
NC280438 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0415 GMT 28 May 87

[Text] On the occasion of 'Id al-Fitr, the South Lebanese Army [SLA] released 46 detainees from the Al-Khiyam Prison last night.

TISHRIN: Attack on U.S. Diplomats Part of 'Battle'

*JN280726 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0531 GMT 28 May 87*

[From the press review]

[Text] In another commentary on the Al-Ma'adi operation against the U.S. diplomats, *Tishrin* writes: This means a battle is raging in Egypt between the nationalists on one hand and the Camp David regime and its partners on the other. The Camp David parties should not delude themselves by ruling out the use of arms by the nationalists as a way of expressing themselves. Actually, they are convinced that the Al-Ma'adi operation, the 1981 reviewing stand action [Al-Sadat assassination], the Sulayman Khatir operation in 1985, and the February uprising of 1986 are directly linked. All these actions confirm that Egyptian nationalists are lying in wait for Camp David and its parties.

The paper asks: How do Egypt's Camp David authorities deal with the lesson of the Al-Ma'adi operation? The paper replies by citing Mubarak, who said: Before it is too late. When he did so in his call to rescue Camp David from its dilemma by Arabizing it, he showed that he anticipates the possibility of growing violence from Egyptian nationalists. This would inflict a miserable defeat on him and would subsequently lead to the collapse of the policy of forcing a settlement on the Arabs. That is the time Mubarak fears will be too late.

Al-Asad, USSR's Sytenko Hold 'Intensive Talks'

*JN271846 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1730 GMT 27 May 87*

[Text] There have been intensive talks between Damascus and Moscow on the Palestinian problem. Roving Soviet Ambassador

Mikhail Sytenko left Damascus for Tunis today after a 2-day visit to Syria. SANA notes that during his stay, Sytenko delivered a letter to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad from CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev on bilateral and international issues.

According to an informed source in Damascus, the Soviet official's visit dealt mainly with the Palestinian problem and PLO-Syrian relations. The source added that Al-Asad and Sytenko discussed the two countries' efforts to reunite the PLO in accordance with an agreement reached during President al-Asad's trip to Moscow on 23 April. They also examined the stages covered on the road to reuniting the Palestinian factions before an international conference for peace in the Middle East is held.

Iranian Envoy Gives Al-Shar' Message for Al-Asad

*JN271132 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 27 May 87*

[Text] Damascus — Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received Mohammad Hasan Akhtari, the Iranian ambassador in Damascus, this morning. The envoy handed Al-Shar' a message for President Hafiz al-Asad from Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i on Jerusalem Day. The message affirms the importance of Islamic solidarity in fighting the Zionist enemy and the imperialist forces and in liberating usurped territory.

Shamir: Cabinet To Act on Committees' Findings*TA271214 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew**1200 GMT 27 May 87*

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir says that the Cabinet will take action to correct all the wrongs noted by the committees that probed the Pollard affair and will implement closer scrutiny of all the security bodies. At the same time, Mr Shamir pointed out that as far as he is concerned, the submission of the two reports closes the case. Mr Shamir repeated that he does not anticipate a political upheaval following the reports. Our reporter Avshalom Ginosar notes that Mr Shamir was speaking to reporters after a visit to Elon More. [passage omitted]

Likud Sees No 'Shocks' to Coalition From Reports*TA271714 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew**1500 GMT 27 May 87*

[Text] The Likud ministers have said the two reports on the Pollard affair prove unambiguously that no single minister bears any immediate responsibility for the Pollard affair. Our correspondent Shlomo Raz reports that the Likud ministers met in the prime minister's residence and agreed that no shocks to the coalition are to be expected as a result of the two committees' findings and the unity government will be able to continue to exist.

Eban Committee Member Claims Peres 'Lied'*TA271655 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew**1506 GMT 27 May 87*

[Text] Eban committee member Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, Likud, has again accused Mr Shim'on Peres of having knowingly lied in his first testimony to the committee. At a news conference he held in the Knesset building, Knesset Member [MK] Ben-Elisar said he has proof of the accusation but he cannot present it to the public because this could harm the country's security. Therefore he is proposing that a Supreme Court judge or a state inquiry commission check what he has said. In reply to a question by our correspondent, MK Ben-Elisar said that if Mr Peres sues him, he will be ready to lift his immunity. Our correspondent recalls that there were differences of opinion over this matter in the Eban committee, between the Likud and Alignment members. The Likud members claimed Mr Peres had lied knowingly while the Alignment members claimed that when he was testifying he had told the committee all he knew at that time.

Peres Speaks on Pollard Probes, Peace Process*TA272033 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew**1840 GMT 27 May 87*

[Interview with Shim'on Peres, vice prime minister and foreign minister, by Elimelekh Ram, Dan Scemama, and Yoram Ronen — live in the studio]

[Text][Ronen] Good evening. Since last night's publicity on the committees dealing with the Pollard affair, we have heard serious reactions by the political establishment. There were those who

called for the establishment of a legal inquiry committee that would get to the truth, there were those who called on the ministers involved to pay the price of their ministerial responsibility, and the main criticism was against what is called the prime ministers' forum: Rabin, Shamir, and Peres. The prime minister and the defense minister did not grant our requests to appear on Moqed this evening. We are grateful to Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres, who has come to the studio. Good evening, Mr Peres.

[Peres] Good evening.

[Ronen] And a good evening to our Knesset correspondent Elimelekh Ram and to Dan Scemama, too. Mr Peres, as you saw, Knesset Member [MK] Eliyahu Ben-Elisar today accused you of having knowingly lied when you appeared before the Knesset committee on 28 November 1985. What is your reaction to this grave charge?

[Peres] Listen, have you ever in your life met serious people that you think are serious, and they turn out to be nothing but the epitome of a lack of seriousness? I am referring to Mr Ben-Elisar. First of all, let us eliminate all the veils and mystery from the story of truth or untruth. Several days after the Pollard affair was discovered, I appeared before the confidential and secret subcommittee from which, as is known, nothing is leaked. There were two versions. One version had it that Pollard had volunteered of his own free will; the second version claimed that Pollard had been recruited. That same day and that same hour I believed the version I had been told, that Pollard had volunteered. I was not mistaken. [words indistinct] such a mistake. Tell me, how could Ben-Elisar even know what I knew and what I did not know at that moment? Why do I need judges? I am telling the nation all [word indistinct] that story. What does it...

[Scemama, interrupting] Including the classified section?

[Peres] I do not know what classified section. I am telling you the story. All this talk of classified sections is designed to wrap a baseless story in seriousness. It does not concern me at all. The question is, which version should I have given that committee, version one or two? I am not involved in either one or two...

[Ram, interrupting] Mr Peres, I...

[Peres, interrupting] Excuse me. Altogether, Pollard began when I was not in the Cabinet and I was not prime minister.

[Ram] If you would permit me to just quote MK Ben-Elisar, I was at today's news conference. I said: I have firm proof. I cannot publicize the proof...

[Peres, interrupting] Of what?

[Ram] Of the fact that the vice prime minister did not speak the truth when he appeared before the committee.

[Scemama] Excuse me, that he lied knowingly.

[Ram] And he said: I suggest to Mr Peres that he agree to the appointment of an examiner, a judge, who will investigate. I will

bring that judge all the proof I have. Are you prepared for such an investigation?

[Peres] Excuse me, I am not at all prepared to take part in an act of prime foolishness. How does it involve me at all? Let us say that on the 28th of the month, it seems to me, there was a report to the subcommittee and there were three versions in front of me and I chose one of them. After all, both of them [as heard] were reported.

[Ronen] He claims that on the 28th you reported one version and another version some days later.

[Peres] Because another version had reached me. That could certainly be. What does it have to do with the matter? Did I do it? All in all, what interest could I have had in telling another story to the committee? Look, that is the entire lack of seriousness and lack of honesty of that man. For several months already, you, in the television, and others [words indistinct] Peres did not tell the truth. What truth? Does the truth involve me? Am I involved in it? There were two versions. I am telling the nation. There is nothing classified that will reveal all the information there is. So much has already been revealed, so much has already been leaked, so here is another bit. I am informing you. I agree that the entire nation should be a judge. Well, Ben-Elisar goes around telling stories. What stories? How does it involve me at all? Altogether, it is what is called in law hearsay [last word in English]. I heard version one or I heard version two. I can believe one; I can believe two. I am not involved, neither in one nor in two.

[Ram] Mr Peres, Mr Ben-Elisar today said, in public, at a news conference, that you had lied knowingly, and he emphasized the word knowingly, will you sue him for this? He is prepared to lift his immunity.

[Peres] No, no, listen, I do not take him seriously, and I am telling you that he is telling baseless stories, things that have no grounds, things that have no basis, things that do not involve me. What interest do I have, altogether, explain to me. Here we are, four men sitting here in the studio. Explain to me how this matter involves me? Let us say that I believed version one that was told to me, or version two, and I will also tell you what the difference is. What are we doing here, all of us? Pretending? I am telling all the television viewers, there are no more secrets.

[Ram] That is, you reached the classified section...

[Peres, interrupting] Excuse me. The classified section; here, I am describing it. The argument is whether Pollard volunteered or Pollard was recruited. Well, so what?

[Ram] That was the argument at the time?

[Peres] That was the argument at that time and that is the whole story.

[Ram] The two versions?

[Ronen] Yes.

[Peres] I say, both versions. How does it involve me at all? It is a lack of seriousness; it is a lack of responsibility; it is a lack of honesty on the part of that man. That is all I can say.

[Ronen] That being so, Mr Peres, I suggest we move over to the Rotenstreich committee, whose conclusions, as you have said several times, you accept, you adopt. But that committee says that all the Cabinet members bear ministerial responsibility for the Pollard affair and the question we are asking you is, what, in your opinion, is the practical meaning of this decision?

[Peres] Let us analyze the matter. Both committees say one thing: not one of the ministers knew. There is an objective problem here: something happened, done, let us say, by civil servants, as the report says. The ministers did not know. What can the Cabinet say? The Lord Almighty is responsible? Somebody must be responsible. The Cabinet has comprehensive responsibility -- incidentally, not only for blunders, for achievements, too. There are wonderful achievements in the field of security, in the field of the intelligence services. Just as the Cabinet bears comprehensive responsibility, even without knowing the details, for the country's achievements, it also bears comprehensive responsibility for human errors.

[Ronen] But that is not what you said in December 1985, when the affair broke, that the Cabinet...

[Peres, interrupting] I want to tell you something, Yoram. If you ask me, all the affairs I dealt with when I was prime minister occurred at a time when I was not prime minister. The Shin Bet, the bus, I was not involved in that one little bit. Not with the bus, not with what happened afterward, not with the covering up of the evidence. I took it and dealt with it because security required it. Pollard's recruitment happened before the government was established. The Army entered Lebanon before the government in which I was a member was established.

[Ronen] But Pollard [word indistinct] in the government in which you were a member...

[Peres, interrupting] Just a minute. No, Pollard was recruited in the spring of 1984, before the government was established and, as prime minister, I was inundated with affairs. I dealt with them, in my opinion, responsibly, seriously. I do not deny my responsibility for a single moment. I think I saved U.S.-Israeli relations. Look, there were two committees. The Rotenstreich-Tzur committee says we behaved and they say I have extra responsibility. Fine, I accept the extra responsibility with pride. The Rotenstreich-Tzur committee says that the conduct should have been such and such. The Eban committee, as it is called, apart from the Likud members of the committee, praise and laud that move.

[Scemama] Half the committee.

[Peres] Not half, all but the Likud members. That is not half. Now, I sit down with Mr Shamir, who was the vice prime minister, foreign minister. He works together with me; we get everything together. Fine, I am the first among equals. I accept the responsibility.

[Scemama] Mr Peres, with your permission...

[Peres, interrupting] What responsibility do I have to evade? Am I responsible for Lebanon? Was I responsible for the inflation? Was I responsible for the bus? Was I responsible for Pollard? And I bore the responsibility, as a man should bear responsibility, as someone who serves and loves the country should.

[Ram] But perhaps it is worth our stressing that what is in question is your responsibility as prime minister for dealing with the Pollard affair, after the affair broke...

[Peres, interrupting] Yes, sir, that is true.

[Ram] Now, if you accept the Rotenstreich committee's conclusions...

[Peres, interrupting] Yes.

[Ram] All the ministers are responsible. There is ministerial responsibility.

[Peres] Fine.

[Ram] Let us refresh our memories then. Two people who were found to blame on the operational level, Avi'em Sela' and Rafi Eytan, paid the price. Do you think that all Cabinet ministers who were responsible for what took place after the Pollard affair surfaced should pay the price?

[Peres] I do not know what you call a price and what you mean by paying. It is crystal clear that the ministers did not know. Now that you are raising this issue -- and I will be straightforward with you -- should Rafi Eytan, in my opinion, have told Defense Minister Arens and then Defense Minister Rabin? My answer would be yes. Let me add here, and I suggest that we be serious and refrain from indulging in games: A minister is, in fact, responsible for a policy and for appointing people. If you appoint people on whom you cannot rely, woe to you. You tell me what Yitzhak Rabin could have done? Unless you know, unless you have proof that the person you appointed has failed, you believe him. However, if, for instance, the defense minister had been approached for permission and had granted it, he would have shouldered responsibility. This is clear-cut.

As for handling the affair: After it surfaced I handled it; I was the head of the team handling it. I shoulder responsibility. I do not throw responsibility onto any executive level. I believe I acted correctly. I think I saved Israeli-U.S. relations, period. This is also stated by the reports.

[Scemama] With your permission Sir, I do not exactly understand what you are saying. On the one hand, a moment ago you accused Rafi Eytan of not briefing the defense ministers as you think he should have...

[Peres, interrupting] No, no Dan. When you quote me please be accurate. I do not mind a different formulation, but I did not accuse. I only asked whether Rafi Eytan should have briefed the defense minister and said that in my opinion he should have.

[Scemama] Very well then. The Rotenstreich-Tzur committee stated that the entire government, including you, is to blame for this Pollard blunder. Your response to this is: I accept the responsibility and the committee's conclusions, but I accept responsibility and nothing beyond this. What is the meaning of all of this then?

[Peres] Forgive me, where is all that you are saying written? Where is it written that the government is to blame for the blunder? What the Rotenstreich-Tzur committee is saying is that the government should bear collective responsibility, and this is correct, since the entire government is, likewise, credited for achievements. Look, the State of Israel is in a difficult situation. We have forgotten this. It is facing war threats. There has been no decade without a war. It is facing terror threats. There is a budget problem, and numerous others. Of course the government shoulders collective responsibility. Now, do you know any government or any organization in the world that does not commit human errors?

[Scemama] With your permission, Mr Peres, in today's Cabinet meeting Minister Sharon mentioned cases of collective responsibility as opposed to cases of individual minister's responsibility. Under no circumstances am I comparing the Lebanese war or the Sabra and Shatila story to the present affair. However, in that case a single minister and not the entire government accepted the responsibility.

[Peres] Alright. Let me tell you: If any of the ministers had given the instruction to recruit Pollard, he would have shouldered personal responsibility. However, since that is not the case, the situation is different. This is the difference. If you give an instruction you are clearly and personally responsible for it.

[Scemama] What if your people carry something out?

[Peres] If your people carry something out without your knowledge, this is a real problem. Just imagine that a tank commander suddenly fires at a ship and sinks it, fires at a plane or at a person; what can a defense minister do?

[Ronen] Let us pose a question in principle here. Cannot a norm be created here whereby the government assumes responsibility for the blunders and none of the ministers pays the price. Perhaps an investigating committee should not settle for a conclusion of general responsibility but should attribute specific responsibility as done by the Kahan and Agranat commissions [looking into the Sabra and Shatila massacres and the Yom Kippur war, respectively].

[Peres] This is up to the committee. Nobody has restricted it. The committee could have clearly imposed individual responsibility. After all, the committee was not told it must not do so. However, since you are asking, there is no country I know where you cannot find major failures in the intelligence sphere. Look at what happened in Britain with Burgess and Maclean. Has anybody asked for responsibility? Look at what is currently happening in the United States with the marines, with the Navy. Look at what is happening in France and in Germany. This is a real serious matter that I do not underrate. I can say though that we have far more real security problems, far more distressing ones, and we

must make a security and an intelligence effort which exceeds the average not because we like to but because we must defend our country.

[Ram] If you had agreed to the formation of a judicial commission of inquiry, is it not possible that all these distressing questions that we are asking now, that are posed in the press and in the Knesset would not have arisen in the first place? Why were you opposed to the establishment of a judicial commission of inquiry?

[Peres] I do not see the need for one. Take the case of Rafi Eytan and the defense minister. Had Rafi Eytan, for instance, said that he received permission while the defense minister had said that he did not give permission, there would be no argument then. Rafi Eytan says he did not ask for permission while the defense minister says he did not give permission. After all, Gentlemen, we cannot rejoice at others' misfortune for nothing. We must respect every person.

[Ronen] However, Justice Landau at the time refused to undertake the chairmanship of this committee because it does not have the full powers of a state-judicial commission of inquiry.

[Peres] I would not like to speak on behalf of Justice Landau, whom I greatly respect. However, the law makes it possible to either establish a fact-finding committee or a commission of inquiry. Now, the problem with a commission of inquiry is that it involves tens of people, many attorneys and other staff members, while we all agree that we are dealing with a very sensitive and secret matter here.

[Scemama] Mr Peres, we, with our questions, are beating about the bush with regard to the question as to what conclusions should be drawn following the acceptance of responsibility. Likud Knesset Member Olmert this evening called on you to resign. Minister Sharon demanded this during the Inner Cabinet meeting last night, charging that it is due to you that Jonathan Pollard was sentenced to life. What is your reaction to this?

[Peres] My reaction? Let me first address myself to Minister Sharon's case. I must say that it does not exactly suit him to try to play Emile Zola. He is the last person on earth who should do this. If he indeed thinks that the action which we, Mr Shamir, Mr Rabin, and myself, decided on regarding Pollard led to Pollard's imprisonment while Sharon was a member of the Inner Cabinet which approved this, why is he staying on as a member of this Inner Cabinet?

[Ronen] No, to quote Sharon correctly, he claims that the documents that you handed over to Abraham Sofaer's committee provided the proof that...

[Peres] Alright, but he was an Inner Cabinet member. If he thinks that this led to Pollard's imprisonment, to such a grave development — what should the conclusion be then? Is his seat more important to him than this? He should have gotten up and walked out.

Let me now refer to Ehud Olmert. We had the Shin Bet affair [the Ashqelon bus hijack affair]. Why did Olmert not display zeal

then with regard to checking who is first among equals, whether or not the political echelon was in the know, whether or not a lack of knowledge makes this echelon responsible? After all, the Pollard affair began during the time of a government which Olmert, not I, supported. This Shin Bet affair began then. What does this member of Knesset think? That he can make political gains of anything and pretend he is righteousness incarnate? Can he have criticism for me alone all the time and no criticism for those who were responsible for the Shin Bet affair at the time, those who were responsible for inflation, for involvement in Lebanon and for Pollard? What is this belated rectitude?

[Ronen] Mr Peres, do you agree with the assessment that in the Knesset committee's report it is the defense minister who is harmed more than everyone else?

[Peres] I do not think so. We are beginning to play with formulas here. I think that Yitzhaq Rabin is an excellent defense minister. For 2 and 1/2 years he has been entrusted with impossible missions. He is the first defense minister in the State of Israel who voluntarily cut the defense budget under unbearably difficult conditions, extricated the IDF from Lebanon and is facing up to terror every day. Let us be fair here.

[Ram] However, we are talking of a very special, specific Pollard affair. Let me remind you that the Likud members on the committee, as well as Abba Eban determined Rabin's responsibility as the minister in charge of the Science Liaison Bureau [SLB]. They have used very sharp words — you must have seen the report...

[Peres, interrupting] What sharp words?

[Ram] They attributed full responsibility for what happened to Yitzhaq Rabin who, as they stated, did not supervise, did not adequately supervise the SLB. Do you accept this assessment?

[Peres] Look, I heard very sharp criticism leveled at this committee by the Knesset speaker. He made courageous and correct comments. This Eban-led committee said it was not a judicial committee, so why did it give marks? In general, if you want to pass judgment on anyone, do this in a judicial manner. I do not think that a political, parliamentary committee can or should give marks.

[Ram] But a judicial commission was not established, sir.

[Peres] Well then, demand such a commission. This is a democratic parliamentary regime where the majority decides matters. A majority can require the establishment of a judicial commission. However, it is impossible for them to say that they do not judge and pass a judgment at the very same time.

[Ronen] Can this report, Mr Peres, harm Eban's status in the Labor Party?

[Peres] No, this is not a personal matter. I think that Mr Abba Eban created more important things during his lifetime which will be well remembered.

[Ram] In any event, there has been an evaluation of what you term Eban's creation. In the United States the Rotenstreich-Tzur report was defined as whitewashing...

[Peres, interrupting] Excuse me, who?

[Ram] Senior U.S. Administration officials.

[Peres] Are they named?

[Ram] I am simply referring to media reports. Mr Eban gained praise as a person who revealed courage. Steve Rosenfeld, *The Washington Post's* assistant editor, said in an interview for IDF Radio today that putting the blame on everyone means that no one is actually to blame.

[Peres] I do not know whether *The Washington Post* is noted for support and love for the State of Israel. I have my doubts about this. Now, as far as the United States is concerned, I heard the report you mention on the radio this morning. However, I also heard the announcement by the U.S. ambassador, who is the representative of the U.S. Government. He rose and said that nobody in the United States has expressed an opinion yet and those anonymous sources who expressed their opinion on the matter did not do so with the knowledge or approval of anybody else. Now, I need not respond to Steve Rosenfeld. I am engaged in security affairs most of my days. I know how difficult this is. This is not the only human error that has ever happened. There are very difficult dilemmas at times. Let us say that I said what I said about Rafi Eytan. This is not a case of corruption or greed, but a matter of wrong considerations. This does happen in life. I am not saying that we should treat this matter lightheadedly, but we should not adopt the approach of rejoicing at people's misfortunes either. I do not see any reason for this. Now, Mr Eban shared the opinion of the three Likud members on one matter, but I did not see that the Likud members shared Eban's view on how the Pollard affair was handled after the fact, although the three people on the committee who justified the government's and my position included two former ambassadors to the United States: Simcha Dinitz and Abba Eban. With all due respect to Likud's David Magen, Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, and Ehud Olmert and their view as to how the United States should be handled, these three acted as a Likud team with political undertones and with constant leaks for months on end. I would have treated their opinion with respect otherwise. On the other hand, two honorable former ambassadors on this parliamentary committee say that we handled the matter correctly, and I share this opinion.

[Scemama] Mr Peres, with your permission, let us move over to another subject, the early elections issue. Tomorrow the Labor Party Central Committee is convening at your request. At the same time, key party members level criticism at you, saying that your moves led to the failure to achieve early elections and the international conference may die before it is born. You surely would want to hear the names of these members, but I cannot disclose them. Believe me, that is what was said.

[Peres] Keep them to yourself. However, since you are talking to these key members who are candid with you, perhaps you should ask them what they propose be done? What do they in fact suggest? What is the alternative? Let us say that you have a

golden opportunity now to hold direct negotiations with Jordan. I think this is a very important matter and it would simply be sinful of Israel not to seriously examine a chance for peace. What do those people whose names you cannot disclose although they are my friends, and although they are key members, propose that we do?

[Scemama] Mr Peres, the question in fact is whether work was done in Israel besides the work that was done abroad. You undertook to achieve early elections when, in fact, nothing was ready, and these members claim this is because Mr Peres did everything on his own, inside his office.

[Peres] And what if I had done this together with them? Listen, let us deal with one thing at a time. We have an Inner Cabinet made up of five Likud and five Alignment members. It is sometimes possible to reach a six to four ratio, and sometimes this is impossible. When it is a five to five ratio a decision cannot be reached. What needs to be done then? One should examine matters in the Knesset, whether early elections can be held or not. Just imagine that I had examined the possibility of early elections before the Inner Cabinet discussion, what would the Likud members have said then? They would have said that I was only pretending. So, the order of matters was that I first had to bring the issue before the Inner Cabinet to check whether a majority could be enlisted for it. Later I had to go to the Knesset. Today's picture of the situation in the Knesset, in my opinion, indicates that there are between 58 to 59 supporters for early elections. The middle is made up of a religious bloc, and neither you nor I need anybody to tell us that this bloc expects gains in the religious sphere.

[Ram] Do you still believe that within 3 to 4 weeks it will be possible to pass a bill on dissolving the Knesset and holding early elections?

[Peres] I do not rule this possibility out, since in some cases we had far smaller figures than 58 to 59. Look, I do not seek early elections. I seek peace and expect that all of you, all of us, will put in the necessary effort here. We owe this to the country, to the young generation, to ourselves. This is what I am occupied with and will not let go for a moment.

[Scemama] But it is clear that this will not be adopted in the Inner Cabinet.

[Peres] This is why I favor approaching the people. What do you want us to do?

[Scemama] Do you think you can do this by July?

[Peres] I did not commit myself to a date. I am not an election contractor...

[Scemama, interrupting] No, I said July because this is the end of the Knesset summer term...

[Peres, interrupting] I am not an election contractor. I am acting on behalf of peace. For 2 years I got things passed and am trying to get this issue passed as well. Nobody regrets that we saved Israel from inflation, that we extricated Israel from Lebanon,

that we saved Israel from terrible fraternal hatred, that we built an infrastructure for peace. There are people, including me, who want to make supreme efforts to check whether the country can be extricated from the cycle of wars. What is this, smallheaded politics, a children's game? This is the most serious matter on our agenda, which should dictate our deeds.

[Ronen] Mr Peres, we must conclude, but allow me another question. If a majority is not found for early elections by the end of July, when the Knesset goes into summer recess, will you recommend that the Labor Party leave the government?

[Peres] I do not have to make any commitment now. What guides me is not whether I am or am not in the Cabinet; what guides me is the peace process. In July I will reassess the situation, the positions of our neighbors and of the United States, the chances of progress on this issue. The question is what the dictating factor is, and let me repeat that the factor which dictates my action is the absolute importance, the duty of examining whether a peace dialogue can be reached. Anything else, all the rumors about my promise, as it were, to make this or that concession to Jordan are unfounded. I am committed to the State of Israel, to the citizens of Israel, to examine whether peace can be established in the region.

Labor Ministers Criticize Eban Committee Report
TA280421 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0400 GMT 28 May 87

[Text] Labor Party ministers met last night at the house of Foreign Minister Peres in Jerusalem. Israel Radio's political affairs reporter says the ministers joined Peres in his criticism of the Eban Committee's findings on the Pollard affair. Our reporter adds that the Lavi fighter project was also discussed at the meeting and it was decided that every minister would take his own position without a joint Labor Party stand on the issue. The government is due again to discuss the Lavi next week.

Rabin Interviewed on Pollard Committee Findings
TA271624 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
1400 GMT 27 May 87

[Telephone interview with Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin by anchorwomen Dan Shilon and Ya'el Dan — live]

[Text][Shilon] How do you interpret the responsibility the Cabinet as a whole has accepted? Is this not personal responsibility, or drawing personal conclusions, if any at all?

[Rabin] Perhaps we will really begin with the second question. I have also heard you on this broadcast, and you mentioned the Agranat committee [established after the 1973 Yom Kippur War].

[Shilon] That is so.

[Rabin] What was the problem there? The case was clear cut [last two words in English]. The chief of staff, together with the General Staff, went to the defense minister and presented a

situation report, submitted recommendations, were given approval by the defense minister and the Cabinet. In such a case nobody would conceive of a defense minister or Cabinet not bearing the supreme responsibility. There could also be different cases, in which something occurs around... [changes thought] Let us take the Tzur-Rotenstreich committee's definition that a minister is responsible for an act or blunder committed without his knowledge. In this case there is no need for a personal conclusion. I will give you an example. You asked somebody about the United States. Did anyone in the United States even think of laying any sort of responsibility on Secretary of Defense Weinberger because of an unusually grave case of espionage, in which the Marines guarding the U.S. Embassy in Moscow, who are subordinate to him, gave away some of the prime secrets of the United States? That was one of the most grave espionage scandals ever in the United States. Why did nobody at all put forward the demand for the ministerial or personal responsibility of the secretary of defense? Because it is inconceivable that he could be responsible for something he did not know. And the fact that my predecessor in the post and I did not know about Pollard, we were not asked, certainly not about his location, and this was determined by both committees...

[Dan, interrupting] Minister Rabin, you are taking upon yourself responsibility within the framework of the comprehensive responsibility of the Cabinet, as we heard today; the Cabinet is adopting the report. What form does this responsibility take?

[Rabin] The significance is that, toward the Knesset, in the field of ministerial responsibility, the entire Cabinet — and it alone is responsible to the Knesset, not one minister — actually says to the Knesset: We are responsible for what occurred, by virtue of the common Cabinet responsibility because, according to our system, a minister is not directly responsible to the Knesset.

[Shilon] Mr Rabin, following what was decided, or the findings of the committee, were the reactions that, it seems to me, came from you and the prime minister [as heard], reactions of contempt for the Knesset committee, were they correct?

[Rabin] Excuse me, the reference is to two committees. First of all I would like to add the operational, practical, main conclusion is one we came to almost 18 months ago. When the Pollard affair broke, the Scientific Liaison Bureau was eliminated. That body, whose activity was deviant in the Pollard case, was eliminated. It was following its activity that we came to the conclusion that this body should no longer be allowed to remain. Also, the type of activity, even if it is close to producing or could produce the possibility of a Pollard case, will no longer recur. Therefore the main conclusion was to eliminate any possibility whatsoever that we could find ourselves in a situation such as we have actually confronted. That is the main thing. Now, the second question. I think the Knesset subcommittee should have been more modest in its statements, because although it is true that there has been no question of parliamentary supervision by the Knesset, which does not under any circumstances replace the executive body's responsibility, but if the matters had been known people would undoubtedly have got up and lifted an eyebrow. Apart from that, I have no doubt that the considerations of the members of it were first and foremost guided by political considerations toward political figures and perhaps also personal accounts.

[Shilon] Those of Abba Eban, too?

[Rabin] Really, that would be quite impossible. [laughing] Do you want to tell me that would be absolutely impossible?

[Shilon] Mr Rabin, I will not reply, I only asked.

Daily Reveals 'Secret' Rotenstreich-Tzur Report
TA280759 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
 28 May 87 pp A1, 2

[Report by David Lipkin]

[Text] The findings included in the secret report drawn by the Rotenstreich-Tzur committee on the Pollard affair are no less serious than those of the Eban Committee. The report criticizes the way the ministers handled the affair just as the Eban Committee report does. *Ma'ariv* has learned that none of those involved in the affair receives good marks.

The confidential part of the Rotenstreich-Tzur report levels criticism at the actions taken by the prime ministers' team (Shim'on Peres, Yitzhaq Shamir, and Yitzhaq Rabin) immediately after the Americans uncovered the Pollard affair. The members of the team, who worked in full cooperation, adopted a resolution in principle on cooperation with the Americans which appeared reasonable given the conditions at that time. The report cautions that the team did nothing to check the facts concerning the affair. For example, the team did not know of the existence of Avi'em Sela' or of other facts. That is why it gave erroneous information to the Americans, tarnishing the Israeli Government's credibility. The committee rules that this situation occurred because Shim'on Peres, Yitzhaq Shamir, and Yitzhaq Rabin did not know all they had to know. On the other hand, the questioning team made up of Attorney Ram Kaspi, Hanan Bar-On of the Foreign Ministry, and Shin Bet Director Avraham Shalom did only a partial job, making do with questioning only a handful of people, and not providing the ministerial team with the necessary information. Therefore, the committee believes that Peres, Shamir, and Rabin did not lie, they simply did not know. Consequently, it thinks it would have been better had the fact-finding committee been established at that time rather than 2 months ago.

The committee's report is detailed and thorough. It goes into the most minute details when describing Pollard's recruitment and his operating methods and points to the mistakes that were made. The committee describes what happened after the Americans uncovered the Pollard affair and the chain of events and mistakes that were made as early as at that point. The secret report consists of some 50 pages as well as 20 pages of appendices.

The committee discovered that the system of controls over the Science Liaison Bureau was very faulty. Defense Ministers Moshe Arens and Yitzhaq Rabin did not at all deal with the question of maintaining controls, believing that the directors general of the Defense Ministry were in charge of this. The committee levels harsh criticism at these directors' lapses in exercising control.

The report also criticizes the behavior of Colonel Avi'em Sela' and raps senior IDF officers for their handling of the issue.

The Rotenstreich-Tzur Committee abstained from imposing ministerial responsibility on one or several of the ministers for the Pollard debacle. It reached the conclusion that it could not hold certain ministers who were completely unaware of the affair responsible. The fact-finding committee was never expected to recommend the dismissal of ministers. The committee based its position on the issue on a legal opinion about Moshe Dayan's future that former Justice Minister Hayim Tzadok drew at the request of then Prime Minister Golda Meir in the wake of the Agranat Commission report [after the Yom Kippur War]. That legal opinion, which is included as one of the appendices to the report, stipulates the significance of ministerial responsibility.

Therefore, the committee placed responsibility on the entire Cabinet. It gave the Cabinet the option to either decide on the dismissal of certain ministers who are more responsible or back them up by adopting its findings.

U.S. Not To Receive Secret Committee Report
TA280432 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
 0400 GMT 28 May 87

[Text] Our political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami reports that the secret part of the Rotenstreich-Tzur committee report will not be handed over to the United States, adding that although the Cabinet yesterday decided to permit the ministers to peruse the confidential part of the report, none of them asked the prime minister's military secretary to give them the report so they could review it.

Liba'i Ceases Representing Pollard Contacts
TA261618 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
 1600 GMT 26 May 87

[Text] Knesset Member David Liba'i announced today that he is ceasing to serve as legal counsel for the three Israeli diplomats who operated Pollard, in view of the fact that they have agreed to free him of the undertaking. Their agreement was obtained after a meeting Liba'i held in Washington with the pertinent bodies there over the three diplomats' case.

27 May Press Comments on Pollard Probe Reports

Morning Press
TA270844 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
 0330 GMT 27 May 87

[From the review of morning press editorials]

[Text] *Ha'aretz* writes that, in the last few days prior to the release of the two reports on the Pollard affair, numerous commentators said that an upheaval in the political arena is not expected. Their prediction might prove to be correct in the short term, but Shim'on Peres and Yitzhaq Shamir, and Yitzhaq Rabin and Moshe Arens have nothing to be proud of in terms of

what was said, both explicitly and through implication, about them in the findings of the two investigating bodies. If the electorate decides that none of these leaders lived up to the faith it had put in them and reaches the logical conclusions from this disappointment, they will have no reason to be surprised and to grumble.

Davar says the Eban committee report, whose central conclusions lack objectiveness, and the vulnerable status of the Rotenstreich-Tzur committee could stir regret, even among senior government ministers, that a commission of inquiry was not set up in accordance with the Inquiry Commission Law and that they made do with substitutes that seemed more convenient. It is still not too late. The imminent public dispute could in any event necessitate this. If conclusions are not reached from the collective responsibility of the political echelon, as stipulated by the two-man committee, and if a commission of inquiry is not established, a public situation will arise which will cause even more harm to the national unity government's authority, which is already undermined.

'Al Hamishmar says that, in the wake of the release of the Rotenstreich-Tzur and Eban committees reports, the government has no choice but to resign. In the absence of operative conclusions on the part of the political echelons, the work and the conclusions of these committees can only be regarded as a waste. The grades handed out to the government by these problematic committees, as the paper puts it, do not give it the right to continue to govern even one more day.

Hamodi'a believes that it is too early at this stage to say the reports of the two committees have ended the Pollard affair. The affair continues to concern the U.S. Administration and will continue to concern Israeli public opinion for many days. It is possible that the satisfaction expressed by Cabinet ministers last night was slightly premature and exaggerated. There are elements waiting for the government around the corner and anticipating its downfall — and not out of pure intentions.

Midday Press

TA270848 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0800 GMT 27 May 87

[From the review of midday press editorials]

[Text] *Hadashot* writes that we are all guilty [in the Pollard affair] because none of the ministers is guilty. None of the ministers is guilty because none were party to the decisions. Those who did decide in fact knew nothing and are therefore not guilty. And if they are not guilty, then we are all guilty.

Yedi'ot Aharonot writes that the two committees cannot take the place of a state inquiry commission headed by a judge, and we are still awaiting the appointment of such a commission.

Ma'ariv terms last night the night of reports. The findings have no poignancy or focus, and suddenly everything sounds old and meaningless. Those who will continue to pay the price are those same members of the operation echelon against whom criminal charges are still pending in the United States.

Shamir Interviewed on Conference, Elections
TA221224 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT
(LESHABAT Supplement) in Hebrew
22 May 87 pp 3, 20

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by Roni Shaqed and Tzvi Kessler; on 21 May, place not given]

[Text] [*Yedi'ot Aharonot*] It is impossible to discuss political affairs without addressing the [21 May] murder of the child from Elon More.

[Shamir] I was deeply shocked upon hearing about the horrendous murder of Rami Haba. Our enemies, the terrorists, are drawing no distinction between children, women, soldiers, or civilians, and for them every Jew is a target for murderous plots. The killers and their bosses must realize that as loathsome and abhorrent as their crimes are, they will not drive the people of Israel from their land. The security forces are and will be doing everything to capture the perpetrators of the crime, who have lost their humanity, to give them their due punishment. The devil has not been able to conjure up a suitable way to avenge the blood of a small innocent child. [allusion to a poem by national poet Nahman Bialik]

[*Yedi'ot Aharonot*] Let us go back to political issues. Have you drawn any red lines for the foreign minister's range of activities?

[Shamir] The foreign minister has no mandate to act on behalf of the government for an international conference. He must stop this. Why, only yesterday we heard Kissinger express his opposition to the idea of a conference. I knew that he thought so, but I waited for him to express his view in public. More and more U.S. statesmen are saying the same, and even the major U.S. papers have expressed their opposition to it.

[*Yedi'ot Aharonot*] So how do you explain the gap between the positions of the U.S. and Israeli press?

[Shamir] The Labor Party has been exerting pressure on the press to express support for the conference. I am sure that, were it not for this pressure, the Israeli press would have expressed the same thoughts and ideas expressed in the United States.

[*Yedi'ot Aharonot*] The vice prime minister maintains that he can work toward a conference because no resolution against it has been adopted.

[Shamir] That is not true. Peres never informed the Cabinet or myself that he is working for a conference. But now the Inner Cabinet has held a debate on the issue, and it turned out that, in terms of the balance and its implication, Peres' proposal was rejected. So he is indeed working and doing whatever he is doing without the mandate to do so. I can only console myself in knowing that all his interlocutors realize this.

[*Yedi'ot Aharonot*] You have accused Peres of harming peace.

[Shamir] That is true. I believe that the portrayal of Israel as accepting the conference placed many hurdles before the acceptance of Israel's traditional principle of direct negotiations. It

caused great damage to Israel's political positions on the international arena. If the Arabs have a choice between direct negotiations and a conference, they will favor the latter, as it would be the most convenient arena for them. It puts no demands on them. They enjoy a decisive majority there. Everyone holds views opposing Israel's. Everyone, with the exception of Israel and the United States, has always supported a conference. Now we will find it extremely difficult to persuade the Arabs to engage in direct negotiations with us.

[Yedi'ot Aharonot] But to date the Arabs have never stood in line to conduct direct negotiations with us...

[Shamir] One must never give up. We made peace with Egypt, too. But if Israel gives up, what will the others say?

[Yedi'ot Aharonot] At the time, you also opposed the Camp David agreements, but they led to peace. Perhaps you are wrong today, as well?

[Shamir] As to the Camp David accords — I did not oppose the peace agreements, I simply could not accept some of the clauses of the accord. I do not think that was a mistake. But after the Cabinet and the Knesset ratified the agreement, I behaved accordingly and did not conduct my own private policy — either in my capacity as foreign minister or as prime minister.

[Yedi'ot Aharonot] If you meet with the Jordanian king today, what kind of peace plan will you offer him?

[Shamir] I hope we will face each other, and I will tell him: Let us sit down at the table and work out ways to make peace between us. In the framework of these negotiations — so I will tell him — we could discuss the status of the Arab population of Judea, Samaria, and Gaza. We will hear what he has got to offer, and I will tell him that our proposals cannot deviate from the basis of the Camp David accords, although I know full well that there are a number of interpretations of these accords. The negotiations should be on how to manifest that peace between us. I will raise ideas that must, of course, be acceptable to him insofar as his own interests are concerned. But naturally I will reserve these ideas until the time when we sit down and negotiate. I will also point out to him the disadvantages to him in an international conference and solutions of a territorial compromise, which are dangerous to him and his kingdom.

[Yedi'ot Aharonot] Does this mean that you have a consolidated peace plan? Could you perhaps elaborate on its principles?

[Shamir] I will elaborate on them at the negotiations. Those who call me "a murderer of peace" are doing me and Israel's standing in the world a terrible injustice. I am striving toward peace, but object to peace at any price, and I will not conduct the negotiations with King Husayn through the press. We must sit face to face, listen to each other's position. And I do have something to offer.

[Yedi'ot Aharonot] The national unity government appears not to be functioning. Labor is demanding early elections. Would it not be better for the country to dismantle the government and approach the people, or work for a narrow-based government?

[Shamir] I oppose early elections as it goes against the national interest. The argument is only over one issue: the international conference. And the chances for this conference are diminishing; thus, there is no reason to dissolve the government over something that will not take place and to push the country into elections.

[Yedi'ot Aharonot] But your partners do not share your views.

[Shamir] Peres is not prepared to come to terms with the internal and international realities. He cannot impose his will on the government, and he does not want to accept this fact. The Labor Party disbanded the team it had appointed to try to disband the government through early elections. They must also disband this desire for disbandment, and then everything will be right.

[Yedi'ot Aharonot] If, however, a government is made up of two central partners, one of which is working to disband it, is it not preferable to ask the people to decide?

[Shamir] I initiated the national unity government even before the last elections. We must try to establish a broad-based government, which the country needs, after the next elections as well. In spite of the differences of opinion, this can be achieved. The government must continue to function in all those matters in which it can function as one body. The conference issue should be left alone and other matters dealt with.

[Yedi'ot Aharonot] But do you have enough faith in Peres to continue sitting with him in the same government?

[Shamir] It is not a matter of faith, but one of an agreement between the parties. Even after new elections it would be best to work together if we wanted to advance the country. Even after elections we would try to seek a way to establish a broad-based government, because it is difficult to work in a narrow-based government in a country like ours. It is a matter of cooperation out of convenience; this is a marriage of convenience, taking into account the overall national interests.

[Yedi'ot Aharonot] The Likud leaders have accused Peres of treason. Do you think he is a traitor?

[Shamir] I have never used this term; neither have important figures in the Likud used it. I recommend that we do not use such sharp and insulting language, and that we control ourselves.

[Yedi'ot Aharonot] Does the agreement with SHAS [Torah Observing Sephardim] not violate the basic guidelines and damage Israel's relations with the Jewish people?

[Shamir] The basic guidelines have not been violated. Since the government was set up, SHAS has been an integral part of the Likud camp. According to the coalition agreement, we have the authority to appoint a minister from the SHAS party, and the Labor Party cannot object. On Sunday I will submit to the Cabinet the proposal to appoint Rabbi Peretz as minister.

[Yedi'ot Aharonot] Your position on the conference issue, the Cabinet decision on university tuition fees, and your remark that the Arab students feel too good on campus — all these could cause you to be labeled an Arab hater.

[Shamir] First and foremost I want to have an image of one who loves Jews. That is the main thing. As for tuition fees, I do not think the government should be split on political lines over the matter. The issue has no partisan bearing. A public committee comprising all the elements connected to the issue, and not the government, should decide on tuition fees. To my deep regret, the Cabinet debate turned the subject into a political argument. I am prepared to refer the matter to a public committee.

[Yedi'ot Aharonot] Will you propose this at Sunday's Cabinet session?

[Shamir] If the subject is brought up for discussion in the Cabinet on Sunday, I will support this. Transferring the issue to a public committee is the best thing to do. I am opposed to discrimination, and what I said was quoted inaccurately. It should not be forgotten that Herut fought for the elimination of the military government and brought about the first peace with an Arab country. The concept of discrimination is alien to us. I did not say a word against the Arab students in Israeli universities. I pointed out that there is no discrimination against them, and this is proved by the fact that they are even free to demonstrate in support of the PLO on campus.

SHAS Secretariat Approves Agreement With Likud
TA241757 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
 1700 GMT 24 May 87

[Text] The SHAS Party [Torah Observing Sephardim] Secretariat has given its backing to the agreement between SHAS and the Likud. This was announced a short time ago, following a meeting of the secretariat in Jerusalem. Shlomo Berger reports:

SHAS leader, Rabbi Yitzhaq Peretz, said the party secretariat is completely unified in its support of the SHAS-Likud accord. Reading a statement, Peretz said the secretariat encourages the SHAS' Cabinet minister and Knesset members to continue their struggle for all the people of Israel and for all orthodox Judaism. Rabbi Peretz was referring to the SHAS struggle to have conversions carried out according to Jewish law or halakah. The Likud has promised SHAS it will muster enough support for the law to pass in the Knesset within 60 days. Peretz warned the Likud that if it does not succeed SHAS is free from its commitment opposing early elections. Peretz has chosen to remain without portfolio until a decision is made on the conversion law. SHAS and the Likud will try to push the law through on the basis of 1929 law passed under the British mandate. The law says that a person who desires to legally change his religion must obtain a certificate from the head of the religious community he desires to enter. In practical terms, this means that foreign converts like local ones would have to receive approval from the Chief Rabbinate in order to be officially considered Jews.

Beilin Notes 'Understanding' With Jordan on Talks
TA250316 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
 0400 GMT 25 May 87

[Text] Foreign Ministry [Political] Director General Yosi Beilin says Israel and Jordan have reached an understanding by which

King Husayn cannot expect to get all he would want in negotiations with Israel. He said that was the reason Husayn needs the backing of an international conference to lend support to whatever results the negotiations produce.

Crossing Reopens on Border of Security Zone
TA261002 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
 0900 GMT 26 May 87

[Text] Traffic through the crossing near the town of Tibnit on the border of the security zone resumed this morning after an interval of 1 and 1/2 years. The crossing was closed after a booby-trapped car exploded nearby. The security authorities have now complied with the request of Shi'ite inhabitants to reopen it. Our correspondent Shula Schmerling reports that the crossing is mainly used as a bridge to the town of Al-Nabatiyah, north of the security zone. Six crossings are now in operation between the security zone and the area north of it.

Arabs To Strike Over 'Apartheid Policies'
TA241004 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English
 24 May 87 p 2

[Report by David Rudge]

[Text] Shefar'am — Arab leaders decided at an emergency meeting here yesterday to stage a string of strikes and demonstrations to protest what they described as the government's "apartheid policies."

The campaign is to get under way after the 'Id al-Fitr feast on Wednesday which marks the end of the month-long Ramadan fast.

The first action is likely to be a mass demonstration by schoolchildren, students and parents outside the Knesset to protest the government's decision on student fees.

The fees decision, by which most Arabs will have to pay \$500 more than students who have served in the IDF, topped the agenda at yesterday's meeting.

The meeting was attended by civic heads, religious dignitaries, Knesset members, Histadrut activists and representatives of other public organizations in the Arab sector.

Participants lambasted the government's "racist and discriminatory attitude" towards the Arab community, charging that the decision over student fees had made apartheid official.

"There is no doubt that what is happening now in Israel is similar to the situation in South Africa. There is one law for the Jews and another for the Arabs," said Jatt local council chairman Ahmad Abu 'Asbah.

"There has never been anything approaching equality for Arabs living inside Israel proper, but now the disparity is worse than it has ever been," he added.

The participants also discussed other pressing problems in the Arab sector, including local council budgets, illegal building and the severe shortage of classrooms.

It was decided to stage a series of strikes, involving schools and municipal services, culminating in a general strike of the Arab sector unless demands for equal rights were met.

The Arab leaders also sent telegrams to President Hayim Herzog, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and cabinet ministers calling for the cancellations of the decision over student fees.

Shin Bet Investigators Oppose Nafsu Inquiry
TA280524 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
 0400 GMT 28 May 87

[Text] There is opposition in the General Security Service to a police investigation into the 'Izzat Nafsu affair, this according to the Voice of Israel's legal affairs correspondent Gil'ad Sher. Sher says a group of Security Service investigators met yesterday and decided to request from both the head of the Service as well as from Prime Minister Shamir not to appoint such a committee.

Attorney General Yosef Harish reportedly met with the head of the Security Service 2 days ago and told him there is no alternative to either a police or judicial investigation into the Nafsu affair.

Gaza Strip Settlers Establish Political Body
TA271111 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 27 May 87 p 3

[Report by Dani Tzidon]

[Excerpt] The Israeli settlers in the Gaza Strip have established a new body that will handle their political struggles. It is called "the Political Staff" [Hamate Hamedini], numbers 11 members representing all the Israeli settlements in the region, and is headed by Re'uven Rosenblatt, chairman of the Gaza Coast Regional Council.

The "Staff" has already met with Major General Yitzhaq Mordekhay, the commander of the Southern Command, following the latest attacks in the Gaza Strip. The settlers agreed to help and support the IDF units deployed in the area. In a public statement issued by the Staff, the settlers expressed their feeling that "the political moves result in an increase in terrorism throughout the country, but more so in Gaza," and they call upon the government "to consider the awesome responsibility undertaken in pursuing the political contacts."

The Staff is demanding that the settlement drive in the Gaza Strip be stepped up and that two settlements whose establishment had been approved in the coalition agreement be set up. These are Dugit north of Gaza, and Pe'at Sade in the Qatif Bloc. [passage omitted]

Shomron Orders 'Harsher Measures' in Territories
TA271137 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 27 May 87 p A6

[Report by Avino'am Bar-Yosef]

[Text] Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Dan Shomron has instructed the commander of the Central Command and the security forces in Judea, Samaria, and Gaza to adopt harsher measures toward local inhabitants who intimidate fellow residents or incite against public figures in the territories who maintain a positive relationship with the settlers and cooperate with Israel. This was reported yesterday by Lt Gen Shomron in a meeting with the heads of the Jewish councils in Samaria.

The chief of staff similarly announced that IDF soldiers will be taken off most of the missions in those areas and will be replaced by members of the Border Police.

The chief of staff and IDF representatives informed the settlers that their request for stiffer penal measures against terrorist elements is being considered favorably.

Shamir Receives Recommendations on Ties With RSA
TA261103 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 26 May 87 p A6

[Text] Yesterday Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir received the report of the interministerial team which formulated recommendations on reducing Israel's relations with South Africa in the fields of economy, trade, culture, sports, and so forth. These recommendations are similar to the measures adopted by the EEC countries.

One of the recommendations included in the report is to try to expand Israel's relations with the black majority in South Africa.

The team was headed by Dr Yosi Beilin, the political director general of the Foreign Ministry, and included representatives of the Prime Minister's Office, the Foreign Ministry, the Defense Ministry, the Treasury, and the Industry and Trade Ministry.

Controversy Over Lavi Project Continues

Report Publication Planned

TA280618 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English
 28 May 87 p 4

[Report by Asher Wallfish]

[Text] The state comptroller's report on the planning and production of the Lavi warplane at Israel Aircraft Industries (IAI) will be made public on June 30, the Knesset State Control [Public Audit] Committee decided yesterday.

This was a reversal of a decision earlier in the week, for which the Likud committee members were mainly responsible, to keep the report secret.

Tehiya MK [Knesset member] Refa'el Eytan, who turned the scales on Monday to give the ban on publication its six to five

majority, yesterday joined the Alignment and MAPAM in a six to five vote favouring publication.

The proviso, however, was that the report would only come out publicly if the government made up its mind on the future of the Lavi project by June 30.

Chairman David Liba'i noted that both State comptroller Ya'akov Malz and Defence Minister Rabin had already ruled that publication of the report would not harm either state security or foreign relations, particularly with the U.S.

Shamir Reconsidering Position

TA241838 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1800 GMT 24 May 87

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has not yet formulated his position on the Lavi project. In the past Mr Shamir voiced his support for the project. However, in view of the IDF's vehement opposition to the project, the prime minister is reconsidering his position. This is reported by our military affairs correspondent. A similar stance has been taken by several ministers who had in the past favored the Lavi project.

Defense Plants Oppose Project

TA241136 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 24 May 87 pp 1,2

[Excerpt] Large defense plants, employing a multitude of workers, started organizing over the weekend in order to persuade Cabinet ministers to cancel the Lavi program, for fear that it will harm their infrastructure by appropriating financial resources to manufacture the plane. Representatives of these plants — mainly the Military Industries, RAFAEL [Armament Development Authority], and Tadiran — are considering asking the Cabinet to allow them to appear before it to voice their fears, before a decision on the future of the Lavi is made.

During discussions held to coordinate positions among the Military Industries, Tadiran, and RAFAEL, it was stressed that the electoral power of the workers in the three plants is greater than that of the 20,000 employees of Israel Aircraft Industries. Shalom Habshush, secretary of the Military Industries workers committee, said last night that the Military Industries, RAFAEL, and Tadiran have a total of almost 35,000 workers, "who also have electoral power." Habshush said that the damage to the companies' technological infrastructure and the danger involved in dismissing thousands of employees are no less substantial than what is possible in Israel Aircraft Industries, and could worsen if investment in the Lavi continues at the expense of these and other defense plants. "We do not intend to wage a war between workers, but if the government and the Defense Ministry continue to cut our infrastructure, we will prove to them that we are not inferior to other workers."

Tadiran Director Yig'al Ne'eman, who talked the problem over with senior figures in the defense establishment, was preparing last night to send letters in a similar vein to all government members. Ze'ev Bonen, outgoing director of RAFAEL, last week

warned against the continuous harm being done to RAFAEL because of the preference for the Lavi.

According to the sources [not further specified], this preference has caused budgeting for other development to be halted and real security damage, forcing Israel to surprise American elements with technological innovations, whose development has been frozen, as the only means to continue financing them. [passage omitted]

Other Projects Curtailed

TA260705 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English
26 May 87 p 1

[Report by defense correspondent Joshua Brilliant]

[Text] Tel Aviv — The defence establishment has curtailed production of weapons expected to be decisive in a future war, because it has been pouring a fortune into the Lavi project. If it could replace the Lavi with F-16c's which are just as good, it would have \$3 billion for other research, development and procurement programmes, an authoritative IDF military source said yesterday.

The source explained that the IDF's preferences were based on a study of the future battlefield. Experts analysed the trends in weapons development, what is likely to be around and what the IDF will need in 10 to 15 years.

"Those are the things that will produce a victory in a war. However, because of the Lavi, the most critical elements have been hit," he said.

For example, the Israel Aircraft Industries [IAI] has developed a missile which could "change the battlefield." To produce that change the Air Force will need 1,000 such missiles." [closing quotation mark without opening as published] The IAI has the means to produce them, but the Air Force has funds for only 200-300 missiles in the next few years, the source said.

Another missile developed at RAFAEL (the Armament Development Authority) "could make the difference in a land battle." A special plant has been built to produce the missile, but the authority is operating at only 40 per cent of its potential. At this rate, the army will have far too few to produce the desired change.

"Moreover, some research projects are progressing very slowly, because only few engineers are engaged in them and at some places, engineers are to be fired for lack of funds," the source continued.

The Lavi is not worth this cost. It is an excellent plane, but Air Force Commander [Major General] Aluf'Amos Lapidot told the Cabinet last Wednesday that its capabilities are similar to the F-16c. But the Lavi will be 50 per cent more expensive than the American plane, when the cost of completing development and preparing the production line are taken into account.

The Lavi will even harm the Air Force, the IDF source indicated. Producing fewer than 100 Lavis would make a mockery of the

entire project, because of the huge outlay involved. However, the Air Force doesn't want even that many. It cannot afford to have so many Lavis and is not going to dump F-15's, F-16's or even improved Phantoms to make room for the Lavi. (The improved Phantoms can undertake missions the Lavi is incapable of.)

Moreover, if the Air Force acquires Lavis, it will not have the money to buy the U.S.-developed Advanced Tactical Fighter [ATF], to replace the F-15's, which will be 20 years old in the mid-1990's.

The Air Force must have 30 to 50 ATF's and the Americans now estimate their fly-away cost at \$35m.-\$36m. each.

The source ridiculed IAI claims that cancellation of the Lavi programme will lead to the dismissal of up to 10,000 workers and cost some \$1b.

More than half the items on the IDF's list of alternatives involve the IAI. Thus, some of the 5,000 workers now employed on the Lavi will shift to producing the new items. The other 15,000 IAI employees are not involved in the Lavi. They are working on the Astra, an anti-missile missile and other projects which will not be affected by cancellations of the Lavi. Thus, the source estimated, 30 to 40 per cent of those working on the Lavi will be fired and costs of cancelling the project will come up to no more than \$300m.-\$400m.

Nisim Not Concerned With Rising Consumption
TA261115 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew
26 May 87 p 1

[Report by Gad Li'or]

[Text] "Under no circumstances whatsoever will I take any emergency measures to stem economic consumption. I am against taking any measures to deal with the so-called 'consumption spree'," Finance Minister Moshe Nisim told *Yedi'ot Aharonot* yesterday.

Nisim added: "First of all, the increase in consumption is no cause for concern. Second, I have no plans whatsoever to undermine the economic stability that has been attained. I am against effecting a devaluation, imposing restrictions on imports, or raising prices in order to curb consumption."

"If economic stability is undermined, this might lead to an irreparable collapse," the finance minister cautioned. "Foreign currency reserves are quite considerable and imports — which did not decrease after the 10 percent devaluation in January either — do not represent a sufficient cause for implementing emergency measures which would only undermine the economy."

Nisim said the trade balance should be improved through other means. He produced data he received in the last few days according to which "in terms of consumption, we are very far from the so-called 'merry days of Aridor.' Not only has consumption not risen but exactly the contrary is true: compared with 1983, consumption has gone down."

LIBYA

USSR's Katushev Delivers Gorbachev Message
LD270900 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland
in Arabic 0115 GMT 27 May 87

[Text] At noon yesterday the secretary of the General People's Committee met with Konstantin Katushev, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, and the delegation accompanying him, who are currently visiting the Great Jamahiriyyah.

Katushev handed the brother secretary of the General People's Committee a message to the brother leader of the revolution from Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, relating to bolstering relations between the two countries.

MAURITANIA

New Minister of Minerals, Industry Appointed
LD262336 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic
2300 GMT 26 May 87

[Text] In accordance with a presidential decree issued today, the CMSN leadership announced that Mrs (Abderrahman Khadija bint Ahmed), whose specialization is economics, has been appointed minister of minerals and industry. In accordance with a decree published today, it has also been decided to appoint Lieutenant Colonel (Hamma Ouled Abdelmalek) as commander of National Gendarmerie and Colonel Sheikh Ould Bayda as chairman of the Special Court of Justice.

France, UNDP Grant Financial Assistance
AB230725 Paris AFP in French 1748 GMT 22 May 87

[Text] Nouakchott, 21 May [date as received] (AFP) — France has granted financial assistance totaling Fr16.9 million to Mauritania under the terms of four financial protocols signed last Thursday by Mohamed Salem Ould Lekhal, Mauritanian minister of economy and finance, and Jean Bellivier, French ambassador to Nouakchott.

This aid is part of France's contribution to the economic and social development of Mauritania. Under the first agreement, Fr10 million will be provided to rehabilitate the infrastructure in the city of Nouakchott, while under the second agreement, Fr2.5 million will be used to maintain technical assistance equipment in the irrigated areas of the Boghe region (on the Senegal River).

The two other agreements include Fr900,000 for the study of a master plan for the Senegal River Valley and Fr3.5 million for irrigation development operations of the Gorgol Valley in southern Mauritania. This new financial contribution brings to Fr45 million the total amount Mauritania has received from France in donations since the beginning of 1987, compared to Fr13 million for the whole of 1986.

Last Thursday, Minister Mohamed Salem Ould Lekhal also signed a draft agreement with Henrik Olesen, United Nations Development Program [UNDP] representative, and Khalil Choueiry, FAO representative in Nouakchott. The draft agreement, which concerns the control of sand dunes and desert encroachment, amounts to \$8.3 million.

Finally, the UNDP has decided to give technical assistance to the special program for productive works in Mauritania at a cost of \$1.4 million, under another agreement signed by Mr Ould Lekhal and Olesen. This assistance is expected to improve the economic and social conditions of the rural population of Adrar (central-west region) in their fight against drought.

SUDAN

Press Statement To Be Issued on New Government
JN271745 Khartoum SUNA in English
1715 GMT 27 May 87

[Text] Khartoum, May 27, (SUNA) — Premier al-Sadiq al-Mahdi announced today that a press statement will be shortly issued on the formation of the new government and the outcome of consultation with the leader of the Democratic Unionist Party "DUP" Muhammad 'Uthman al-Mirghani.

The ministers and their posts will be named within the coming few days, Al-Mahdi said adding that the shape of the government - whether it is national or coalition - will be settled during the coming meetings with DUP leader.

Alliance Issues Statement on Government Failure
JN261652 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1035 GMT 26 May 87

[Text] Khartoum, 26 May (SUNA) — The National Alliance of Trade Unions and Political Parties [NATUPP] yesterday issued a statement on the failure of the transitional and coalition governments to implement most of the goals of the glorious popular uprising, and urged the ruling parties to draw up a specific salvation program to be carried out within a specific period of time. The statement also warns of the dangers threatening democracy.

In its statement, the NATUPP said that the charter of the glorious uprising arose out of our people's struggle for the salvation of the homeland. It asserted that the main task of the transitional government was to adhere to and implement that charter, which it failed to do because the positions of the Transitional Military Council were hostile to the new forces that carried out the uprising.

The NATUPP also said that the elected government's program contains the uprising's objectives and principles, and that the government pledged to carry out what the transitional government failed to. But during its first year in power, the NATUPP added, the elected government did not take quick steps to hold the proposed constitutional conference to solve national problems. It also said the May laws which humiliated the people are still in effect. Furthermore, the transitional government did not

allow the new forces to represent themselves in the constitutional institutions, ignored the recommendations of the economic conference, and did not confront the parasitical elements.

The NATUPP condemned the retreat from the uprising's charter by the reinstatement of elements in the infamous, now defunct, state security force, during whose era our people experienced the ugliest kinds of repression.

The NATUPP also urged the forthcoming government to remove the May legacy, improve the national economy, and end the bloodshed in the south. It also warned of the danger threatening democracy, and called on trade union leaders and members to be alert to the activities of the adventurists and forces of darkness, which are still moving freely under the circumstances created by that government.

Yasir 'Arafat Departs After 1-Day Visit

JN261615 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 26 May 87

[Text] Khartoum, 26 May (SUNA) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat left Khartoum today after a 1-day visit to the country, during which he met with the State Council chairman and the prime minister.

In remarks to the press before leaving, 'Arafat said that his visit to Sudan was part of an expanded Arab tour aimed at holding consultations with Sudanese leaders on developments in the Arab and Palestinian arenas. Also discussed were the forces Israel is concentrating on the Lebanese border as a prelude to launching a surprise attack on Palestinian camps in general, and the camps in the Tyre and Jazzin areas in particular.

'Arafat stressed that the Sudanese leadership has shown full understanding and support for the PLO's steps following the Algiers conference, which strengthened Palestinian unity. He emphasized that the convocation of a successful Arab summit is necessary for the Arab nation.

'Arafat denied that he would visit Cairo during his current tour, adding: We are awaiting a response from Cairo and Amman on the committee formed by the PLO to reconsider relations with Egypt and Jordan.

Regarding the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies' abrogation of the Cairo agreement, 'Arafat affirmed that the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies had no right to abrogate the agreement during a session which was attended by only 44 members, since it had been approved by 99 members. He said: The Chamber of Deputies cannot abrogate an agreement signed by the government and reached within the framework of the Arab League and through an Arab summit conference. Therefore, he added, neither Lebanon nor the PLO has the right to abrogate it, and the Chamber of Deputies' decision is illegal. No decision can cancel the presence of half a million Palestinians in Lebanon, he said. This decision was made by the pro-Zionists to convince the U.S. Congress that the PLO is isolated.

'Arafat was seen off at Khartoum airport by State Council Chairman Ahmad al-Mirghani and the PLO office representa-

tive in Khartoum. 'Arafat had arrived in Khartoum from Mauritania and left for the PDRY.

Khartoum Said Encouraging Tribal Violence in Waw

EA262239 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English
1300 GMT 26 May 87

[Text] Reports reaching Radio SPLA from Bahr al-Ghazal administrative areas say that security situation in Waw town has been worsened. According to the sources, killing of the innocent civilians by Khartoum's army and sponsored militias of the Fertit Tribe has become the order of the day. The sources say that residents of the Dinka and Jur nationalities in Waw Town are being subjected to harassment by the Fertit Tribal Militia armed by the government in Khartoum. The sources disclosed that all officers of the army, police, prisons, and wildlife wardens of the Fertit Tribe have been transferred from Raga and Buere to Waw. According to the sources, one of the victims killed by Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi's army in Waw Town is (Lukas Horbak) from Tonj. He was the director of forestry in Tonj. Up to the day that we received this message his body was not found. Meanwhile, one soldier has defected from Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi's army in Waw and joined the SPLA forces around Waw. The defector, Corporal (Zakaria Arop), defected from the enemy garrison in Waw after killing three enemy soldiers.

SPLA Units Report Recent Military Actions

27 Soldiers Killed 14 May

EA262107 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English
1300 GMT 26 May 87

[Excerpt] An SPLA unit of Waw Task Force and forces from Bee Battalion under the command of First Lieutenant Deng Kong Jok and overall command of Lieutenant Colonel Choul Ayuwak clashed with the enemy forces at Atiedo railway station about 7 miles away from Waw Town on 14 May 1987. Twenty-seven of the enemy soldiers were killed and many others were wounded. The enemy also suffered heavy casualties in materiel. [passage omitted]

21 Killed in Torit Attack

EA262108 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English
1120 GMT 26 May 87

[Excerpt] Torit — A combined SPLA force from Tingili, Mukshashah, and Tafeng Battalions under the overall command of Glario Modi Parinyang and assisted by Captain Wani Jada, attacked the enemy position inside Torit Town using heavy guns, killing 21 enemy soldiers and seriously wounding many others. [passage omitted]

'Remarkable Ambush' Kills 122

*EA271753 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English
1300 GMT 27 May 87*

[Excerpts] One hundred and twenty-two enemy soldiers, including 6 officers and 1 Sergeant Major Alfred (?Munyit), were killed in a deliberate ambush led by combined SPLA forces of Tingili, Mukshashah, and Tafeng Battalions on 20th May 1987. This remarkable ambush of the year commanded by First Lieutenant Obutu Mamur Misi took place on the Torit-(?Okoito) road between Lobira and (?Sobat).

The victorious forces, which fall under the overall command of Lieutenant Colonel Glario Modi (?Orinya), destroyed 15 enemy trucks and 2 tanks, one of which was a [word indistinct] tank. More than 80 rifles and 1 120-mm mortar of the enemy were destroyed together with 60 bags of wheat flour and 14 bags of sugar. Five G-3 rifles, one RPG-7, and two machine guns were captured in good working condition. [passage omitted]

In this regard, the SPLM-SPLA chairman and commander in chief, Colonel Dr John Garang de Mabior, has sent his heavy and revolutionary congratulations to Lt Col Glario Modi (?Orinya), overall commander of SPLA forces in the eastern bank and 1st Lt Obutu Mamur Misi, officers and commanding officers and men of the eastern bank of eastern Equatoria Zonal Command for this resounding victory.

TUNISIA

Pro-Khomeyni 'Terrorist' Group Center Discovered
*LD261803 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 26 May 87*

[Text] We have been informed by authorized sources that the national security forces have recently uncovered the Tunis headquarters of a secret Khomeyniite group. When security units stormed the place as part of their investigation into this matter in accordance with orders, they were able to arrest a number of leaders and members of the secret Khomeyniite group. They also found a tremendous amount of equipment used by the movement to carry out its acts of terrorism and destruction.

Our sources note that the security forces came across various types of vehicles, a significant amount of copiers, typewriters, printing materials, video and audio cassettes, and amplifiers, on top of a vast quantity of propaganda leaflets, books, and extremist literature. In addition, they found balloons bearing antigovernment slogans, which were to be released during riots the movement intended to organize in the streets.

The same sources add that a significant quantity of weapons was discovered: knives, daggers, gas canisters, assorted iron tools, brass knuckles, lead balls, hooked nails to puncture tires, and other pieces of equipment used in violent sports. Sizeable sums of money were found as well, some of which had been placed in sealed envelopes with the organizers' code names. The money represented monthly salaries and other stipends for several leaders and members of the movement, and for others recruited to

carry out operations on the group's behalf. These sums, which were defined in accordance with the tasks and ranks of the movement's members, went as high as 553 dinars per person. As the investigation has shown, part of this money apparently came from the organization's members and sympathizers in the form of financial commitments met from their salaries. The balance came from the proceeds of the group's investments in a number of private projects, libraries, taxis, trade in smuggled goods, and certain foreign parties.

The sources add that the security forces were also able to uncover other terrorist hideouts used by the secret Khomeyniite organization to shield some of its leaders and cover up their destructive activities in the capital and other areas of the country. As it turns out, this clandestine group rented these places from their owners, taking advantage of their failure to make any sort of check. These locations were to be used as headquarters to carry out different types of sabotage. The sources point out that this underground organization had recently adopted a phased policy designed to escalate rioting in the capital and other cities by attempting to organize marches and demonstrations. During these events, every violent means at its disposal would have been used to disrupt public order as one stage in its program to undermine the government and replace it with an extremist regime on the Iranian model.

The same sources explain that the organization has involved many minors, especially at schools, in a bid to foment demonstrations and riots, exploiting their innocence and their inability to understand the gravity of their participation in such actions. In addition, they took advantage of a lack of parental supervision and control. In general, the movement tried to win over the public by appealing to their religious feelings. The sources assert that the security forces have other firm evidence proving the seriousness of this clandestine group's plans and desires to destabilize the country and undermine the gains of the nation and the security of all its people. The investigation is continuing in light of these new findings, and its results will be announced in later newscasts as the needs of the inquiry permit.

Baly on Khomeyniite Movement

*LD270135 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
2300 GMT 26 May 87*

[Excerpts] Yesterday, Mr Slaheddine Baly, member of the Socialist Destourian Party Political Bureau and minister of national defense, opened the activities of the party constituency in Umran, after adopting its new form. [sentence as heard] This occurred by inaugurating the constituency center, in addition to supervising a party meeting in the municipal hall.

In reply to a number of attendees' addresses dealing with the march of the party and the nation's current situation, Mr Slaheddine Baly expressed satisfaction with the enthusiasm, alertness, and fighting spirit of the Destourians, which help the party organizations do their jobs. [passage omitted]

Mr Slaheddine Baly recalled the immortal stances of President Habib Bourguiba, which stress the commitment of Tunisia to its Islamic Arab origin since the beginning of the liberation struggle.

He pointed out that the attention given to Islam is proven by all the mosques that have been built in Tunisia, the majority of which were constructed during the short time since independence.

He said it is ridiculous to argue about Tunisia's commitment to Islam, the deep roots of Islam in our society, or the behavior of the Tunisian people. He stressed that the Khomeyniite movement practices all forms of terrorism and violence, trying to trigger civil strife in Tunisians society, and that the movement serves the interests of a foreign regime.

In conclusion, the member of the Political Bureau called on all good citizens to show strong solidarity with the party and state and to be alert, so as to make our country impregnable and continue our march toward prosperity and progress.

Radio Warns of 'Extremists'

LD240049 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 23 May 87

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] There is no doubt that every Muslim who is zealous and concerned about the continued shining of our true Islamic religion has correctly assessed the noble position of the supreme combatant, President Habib Bourguiba, who this morning handed the ambassador of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan a check for the holy Al-Aqsa Mosque Restoration Committee to help restore the Dome of the Rock in the Al-Aqsa Mosque. This generous gesture is within the framework of His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba's continued patronage of all that would support the shining of Islam and protect its features, as the Jordanian diplomat pointed out.

This gesture also comes only a day after his excellency received members of the Supreme Islamic Council. The supreme combatant has assured that members of this council meet high educational standards and are competent in religious affairs. They can employ decisive arguments to resist those who want to deviate from true Islamic principles. This affirms the Bourguibist regime and its victorious leader's commitment to the basis of fighting argument with argument.

The signs of Bourguibist Tunisia's commitment to the true religion as a religion of faith and work are too evident to be counted, while proponents of sedition have proven beyond any doubt that they lack objective and reasonable arguments which

could justify their anarchic and destructive practices. These practices have no logical bases, but are subject to dark motives with the objective of [word indistinct] and rebelling against moral and spiritual ties and rejecting the homeland.

There is no doubt that the extremist groups' lack of logical arguments to justify their dark and misty positions has forced them to adopt a policy of anarchy and chaos. They carry out actions which God and his faithful and virtuous followers reject, because the true Islamic religion has ordered us among other things to love our homeland.

Love of the homeland is part of our faith. This means that a person expresses love for his homeland by cooperating in good works with those who love good works, by struggling against the forces of evil and darkness, and by being proud of and protecting all achievements that raise the dignity of the homeland. Many of these achievements have been realized under the Bourguibist regime, which all Tunisians are duty-bound to protect from destruction and sabotage. The defense of the achievements made for the nation and the people is an issue that concerns the whole national community. We are fully satisfied by the awareness of Tunisians of all classes and generations of the threats posed by the group of extremists. These extremists want to appoint themselves the guardians of our country, our religion, and its followers, as if they were the only Muslims in this country — which is satiated by the true Islamic religion.

There is no doubt that the proponents of extremism have begun to feel their isolation from the rest of the sons of Muslim Tunisia. They have begun to behave in a desperate manner after realizing that the Tunisian people stand united behind their brilliant leader and the protector of Islam in this country, the supreme combatant His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba. They will defend the bases of advanced Tunisian society and its Arab and Islamic features from obscurity and fanaticism.

The duty of confronting the dark extremist groups is the responsibility of all sons of the homeland. This minority, which is hiding behind the veil of religion, wants to disturb the nation's march and spread discord and hatred among its sons through physical and verbal violence, while true Muslims are, as defined by the prophet, the ones by whose hands and tongue people were saved. On this basis, keeping quiet about the behavior of this wicked, strayed group is tantamount to colluding with them against Tunisia and the aspirations of its sons, the sons who want to strengthen our society of forgiveness, goodness, and hope, for the consolidation of which — in our Tunisia of amity, felicity, and dialogue — the Bourguibist system is working tirelessly.

ETHIOPIA

WPE Official Receives CPSU's Belyayev, Delegation
EA272143 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic
 1700 GMT 27 May 87

[Excerpt] Comrade Shimelis Mazengia, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the WPE Central Committee, received and held talks in his office this afternoon with the CPSU delegation led by Comrade Albert Belyayev, member of the CPSU Central Auditing Commission and chief editor of the party's cultural newspaper. Comrade Shimelis Mazengia delivered a detailed briefing on the progress of our revolution. [passage omitted]

KENYA

Official Says No Troops Along Ugandan Border
EA271827 Nairobi KNA in English 1615 GMT 28 May 87

[Text] Kakamega, 27 May — There are no Kenyan troops along the Kenya-Uganda border, contrary to press reports on the situation in the area, the western provincial commissioner [PC] Mr Julius Kobia has clarified. In a press statement issued from his office this afternoon the PC asserted that the situation was normal along the common border with free flow of traffic between the two countries.

In keeping with the established traditions of good neighbourliness, Mr Kobia said that the Busia district commissioner [DC] is scheduled to meet his Ugandan counterpart based at Tororo in the wake of the conflicting press reports. The PC also said that the suggestion by the Tororo DC that there should be a meeting at ministerial level between both countries had been favourably received by the Kenya Government.

Museveni To Visit; Relations 'Getting Worse'
EA271225 Nairobi DAILY NATION in English
 27 May 87 p 1

["Museveni To Visit Kenya Next Week" by Ben Omoro and agencies]

[Excerpt] Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni will visit Nairobi on Friday next week, Kenyan officials said yesterday. At the same time, reports from Uganda indicated that the relations between the two countries were getting worse.

The permanent secretary [PS] in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr Bethwel Kiplagat, said the government was informed of Mr Museveni's intended visit by UNEP [UN Environment Program]. The PS said President Moi, who had also been invited by UNEP to attend its 15th anniversary celebrations, would be out of Nairobi on prior arrangements and would be unable to be

present at the UN agency's function or to meet the Ugandan leader.

President Museveni is expected to make a keynote speech at the world environment day celebrations. Officials said the visit was planned several weeks ago, before Uganda's relations with Kenya sank to their present low.

Ugandan government officials and press levelled new charges against Kenya yesterday, and said that Ugandan police were holding three Kenyan security men. The government-owned "New Vision" newspaper claimed yesterday that the three Kenyan security men had been arrested at a bar inside Uganda after they allegedly asked questions about the deployment of Ugandan troops.

Mr Kiplagat told the "Nation" that the Kenyan High Commission had confirmed the arrest of three Kenyan security men who were now in the hands of Ugandan police. He said the three included a regular policeman, an administration policeman, and a soldier. He said they were on holiday and may have been involved in business across the border. "We are trying to find out the reason why they were held," he added. "Then we will take appropriate steps to get them back."

The official Ugandan paper also said that two Ugandans have died and several been seriously injured after being beaten in Kenyan police cells over the past few days.

But this version was disputed by Kenyan officials who said they are only aware of incidents involving Ugandans who were fleeing their country and shot at by the Ugandan NRA [National Resistance Army] soldiers trying to stop them.

Ugandan officials also accused Kenya of continuing to deny entry to Ugandan citizens and their vehicles, despite official assurances that the border is open and operating normally.

The Ugandan information minister, Mr Abubakar Mayanja, told reporters on Monday night that while Kenya was allowing other nationalities to enter from Uganda, it had banned all Ugandans and their vehicles from crossing the border. [passage omitted]

UGANDA

Museveni Leaves on State Visit to Mozambique
EA271937 Kampala Domestic Service in English
 1700 GMT 27 May 87

[Text] President Yoweri Museveni has left for a state visit to Mozambique. During his stay in Mozambique, Mr Museveni will also pay respects to the late President Samora Machel, who died late last year in a plane crash. President Museveni was seen off at Entebbe International Airport by the minister of state in the Office of the President, Mr Balaki Kirya, and other government officials.

CHAD

French Cooperation Minister Arrives on Visit*AB271545 Paris AFP in French 0935 GMT 27 May 87*

[Text] Ndjamen, 27 May (AFP) — French Cooperation Minister Michel Aurillac arrived in Ndjamen this morning for a visit, during which he will attend Wednesday's opening of the meeting of the Chad-France joint commission.

Tomorrow morning, the minister will go to Faya-Largeau, the large oasis north of the 16th parallel (former demarcation line between the Chadian and Libyan forces) liberated on 27 March 1987. On Friday [29 May] morning, he will travel to Mongo (about 400 km east of Ndjamen). Aurillac will be received today and tomorrow by President Hissein Habre.

The French minister's visit to Faya-Largeau is officially viewed in Ndjamen as "a sign of the true reactivation of the friendship between France and Chad." It is the first by a member of the French Government since the recent victories of President Habre's forces over the Libyan Army in northern Chad.

The *Chadian Press Agency* wrote recently that this trip "will help allay our earlier fears — which were more or less well-founded — of a French-Libyan partition" of Chad. This was a clear reference to France's refusal to commit its troops in Chad ("Sparrowhawk") beyond the 16th parallel during the recent fighting between Chadian and Libyan forces in January and March 1987.

Commission Meeting Opens*AB272058 Ndjamen Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 27 May 87*

[Excerpt] Today is the first day of the French cooperation minister's visit to Ndjamen. Michel Aurillac, who arrived in our capital early this morning, attended the opening of the fourth session of the Chad-France commission at 1500. The ceremony took place in the large conference hall of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, in the presence of members of the government, the National Consultative Council, and the Central Committee of the National Union for Independence and Revolution, as well as several political officials from the party. [passage omitted]

More Aid Earmarked for North*LD280158 Paris International Service in French 2030 GMT 27 May 87*

[Excerpt] After the fighting against Libyan troops in northern Chad, the Ndjamen government must now win the battle of

development. This remark was made by French Cooperation Minister Michel Aurillac. Our special correspondent in Chad, Jean-Karim Falle, reports that France has pledged to help the Ndjamen government promote the economy of the BET, the Borkou-Ennedi-Tibesti region, by giving priority to the establishment of educational, agricultural, and even tourist projects. Special funds for the liberated regions must be made available. They will be added to the \$90 million francs that France has promised to give Chad in 1987. [passage omitted]

Foreign Minister Returns From West African Tour*AB271945 Ndjamen Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 27 May 87*

[Text] Gouara Lassou, the minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, returned to Ndjamen this morning. The Chadian foreign minister paid successive visits to Senegal, Benin, Burkina Faso, and Niger. He also brought messages from President Hissein Habre to his counterparts Abdou Diouf, Mathieu Kerekou, Thomas Sankara, and Seyni Kountche. In all these countries, the Chadian foreign minister and the heads of state discussed the situation in Chad [words indistinct].

ZAIRE

MPR General Secretary Invited To Visit DPRK*AB271805 Dakar PANA in French 1533 GMT 27 May 87*

[Text] Kinshasa, 27 May (AZAP/PANA) — On Monday in Kinshasa, Kil Chae-kyong, deputy director of the International Department of the WPK [Workers Party of Korea] Central Committee, presented an official invitation on his party's behalf to Gambembo Fumu wa Utadi, the MPR general secretary for relations with brotherly and friendly parties, to visit his country.

Mr Gambembo also took the opportunity to invite WPK representatives to the MPR's fourth ordinary congress.

In addition, the two men agreed to exchange party delegations to bolster the ties of friendship and cooperation between the MPR and the WPK.

Mr Kil, who led the DPRK delegation to the 20 May festivities, expressed his satisfaction with the successful celebration of the anniversary of the Zairian state-party. He also said he appreciated the "great" success scored by the MPR under the leadership of Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko in the areas of peace, national unity, and political stability.

GHANA

Soviet Envoy Ends Tour of Ashanti Region
AB271006 Accra International Service in English
 1930 GMT 26 May 87

[From the "Newsreel" program]

[Excerpts] The Soviet ambassador to Ghana, V.M. Semenov, has ended a 3-day tour of the Ashanti region. While in the region, he addressed cadres of the revolution and visited a number of places, including the regional administrative offices, the Manhyia Palace, and the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation at Obuase. Correspondent Alidu Baba reports:

[Baba] The ambassador arrived in Kumasi accompanied by his wife, the economic counselor, and the cultural attache at the Soviet Embassy. His mission was to explore areas in which the Soviet Union could be of much assistance to the Ashanti region in its development. [passage omitted]

Addressing cadres of the revolution at the Kumasi Technical Institute, Mr Semenov called on CDR's [Committees for the Defense of the Revolution] and other organs of the revolution to work toward the advancement of the ongoing process, since a revolution is a dynamic process. He also advised the cadres to ensure the success of the proposed district-level elections.

On the international scene, Mr Semenov praised the efficiency and independence with which the government is pursuing the country's foreign policy toward international peace and cooperation. He said despite their geographical positions, Ghana and the Soviet Union have a lot in common, particularly in the quest for world peace.

The regional secretary, Colonel Osei-Wusu, who chaired the function, said in the 70 years of its existence, the Soviet Union had, through its very united and disciplined people, achieved a lot to become a great power in the world. Col Osei-Wusu declared that if Ghanaians could become more dedicated and disciplined, the country would become a force to reckon with.

Mr Semenov also presented a collection of books to the Ashanti Library in Kumasi. The books were received by the Ashanti regional librarian of the Ghana Library Board, Mr Francis Dadze. The ambassador and his entourage visited the fiber bag product company of GIHOC [Ghana Industrial Holding Corporation], Guinness Ghana Ltd, the University of Science and Technology, and the Ghana National Cultural Center, all in Kumasi, as well as the gold mines at Obuase.

Sports Official, Delegation Leave for USSR
AB262215 Accra Domestic Service in English
 2000 GMT 26 May 87

[Text] A three-member government delegation led by the secretary for youth and sports, Mr Ato Austin, has flown to Moscow to negotiate with Soviet authorities for another 2-year protocol agreement on sports for the year 1987-88. The previous

agreement expired early this year. The delegation will also hold talks with officials of the Young Communist League and exchange views on youth organizational work. On the same plane was a seven-member athletic squad to the Soviet Union. It will participate in an international athletic competition in (?Latvia), in the Baltic republic.

Ghana-Libya Mining Company Receives Machinery
AB272225 Accra International Service in English
 1930 GMT 27 May 87

[Text] The secretary of the Libyan People's Bureau, Comrade ('Abdallah Bendjeldin), was at the Tema harbor today to watch the delivery of mining machinery for the Ghana-Libya Mining Company, a subsidiary of the Ghana-Libya Arab Holding Company. The machinery, valued at \$3 million, will be installed at the company's mining concession at Bibiani in the Western Region of Ghana.

Speaking to the GBC [Ghana Broadcasting Corporation], the chairman of the company, Comrade (Tawfiq Gonam), said their operations will create job opportunities for about 25,000 people within the Bibiani area. He explained that the machinery, which was imported from Australia, is specially designed to suit the conditions in Ghana. It is semimobile and could therefore be taken to any new concessions of the company.

The Ghana-Libya Arab Holding Company was established in 1982. It already runs a grocery shop in Accra and has a large-scale mechanized farm at Sokpoe, near Sogakofe in the Volta Region.

LIBERIA

Moroccan Officials Call on Defense Minister
AB272156 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English
 2000 GMT 27 May 87

[Text] Two Moroccan Foreign Ministry officials today paid a courtesy call on Defense Minister Gray D. Allison and Armed Forces Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Henry S. Dubar at the Defense Ministry. Mr Saad Eddine Taieb, assistant minister of foreign affairs, and Mr (Dakoi Mohamed), charge d'affaires at the Moroccan Embassy, said their visit was to further concretize the cordial relations between Liberia and Morocco, a Defense Ministry release issued today said.

In brief remarks, Defense Minister Allison expressed thanks for the visit and hoped that the traditional friendly ties between Liberia and Morocco would continue to be strengthened in the years ahead.

NIGERIA

University of Nigeria Campuses To Reopen
AB271734 Kaduna Domestic Service in English
 1700 GMT 27 May 87

[Text] The University of Nigeria, Nsukka, is to reopen on Monday, the 1st of next month. It was closed down last week to avert student crisis. The decision to reopen was taken at an extraordinary meeting of the institution's Senate.

Students of the Enugu campus are advised to return to campus on Friday [29 May] and those of the Nsukka campus next Monday.

Three other universities have been closed down for similar reasons. They are those of Benin, Jos, and Ilorin.

TOGO

Eyadema Receives PLO Envoy, 'Arafat Message
AB270727 Lome Domestic Service in French
 1900 GMT 26 May 87

[Text] General Gnassingbe Eyadema, RPT [Rally of the Togolese People] founding chairman and head of state, received a delegation representing PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat at the Presidential Palace this morning. The PLO group, which was led by (Salman al-Irfi), President (as heard) 'Arafat's adviser for African affairs, conveyed the gratitude of the PLO Executive Committee chairman to Gen Eyadema for his support and considerable contribution to unity among the Palestinians, which was achieved during the recent meeting of the Palestine National Council in Algiers.

After the meeting, President 'Arafat's envoy spoke to the press about the PLO's determination to take an active part in any international Middle East peace conference that might be held.

[Begin recording] First of all, I would like to say that I conveyed a message of friendship, fraternity, and gratitude from Brother Yasir 'Arafat, from the Palestinian people, and from the PLO to

His Excellency President Eyadema, who is a great friend of the Palestinians and a great backer of the Palestinian cause. I have been sent here to thank him for his considerable support for the Palestinian cause and for the important delegation he sent to the recent meeting of our National Council — the Palestine National Council — in Algiers. I have also come here to thank him for his significant contribution to Palestinian unity and to the efforts being made by Palestinians to recover their national and inalienable rights to self-determination and a Palestinian state. In conclusion, it was a message of thanks and gratitude that I brought to His Excellency President Eyadema from Brother Yasir 'Arafat, the PLO leadership, and the Palestinian people.

We thank God that national unity is now stronger than ever. The PLO now intends to intensify its struggle by all means to recover the Palestinian people's national rights. It is also ready to accept the various initiatives from around the world designed to find a solution to the Palestinian problem and the Middle East situation. The organization also believes, as do others throughout the world, that an international conference must be held on the Middle East conflict. It should be attended by all the parties concerned, including the PLO, on an equal footing with the others, and the five permanent members of the Security Council. This will permit us to find a lasting solution to the problem. We will continue our struggle with the help of all peace- and justice-loving states, led by Togo. [end recording]

(Salman al-Irfi) was accompanied by His Excellency Ibrahim Mutafa, the PLO ambassador to the OAU, and by (Abd al-Hakim Khaddam), the PLO charge d'affaires in Togo.

Cabinet Approves 13 January as New National Day
AB252101 Lome Domestic Service in French
 1900 GMT 25 May 87

[Excerpt] At the Central Committee meeting held on Thursday, 5 March 1987 at the RPT [Rally of the Togolese People] House in Lome, it was decided to proclaim 13 January National Day, to replace 27 April. In accordance with this decision, the interior minister submitted a draft bill regulating legal holidays in Togo to the Council of Ministers on 1 April. The draft was examined and approved. [passage omitted]

ANGOLA

ANGOP Says Senate Aid Vote 'No Surprise'
MB261541 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
 1200 GMT 26 May 87

[ANGOP commentary]

[Text] The U.S. Senate's unfortunate approval last Friday of an amendment providing for sanctions against the Frontline States was no surprise in view of America's well-known support for the Pretoria regime and its actions in southern Africa. The amendment stipulates that sanctions are to be imposed on independent southern African countries, namely Angola, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe, should they not actually renounce their support for the patriots fighting to dismantle the shameless apartheid system. This amendment can be regarded only as a coercive measure designed to hinder the antiapartheid and anticolonialist struggle, as well as a show of solidarity with the racist regime.

In approving such an amendment, the United States intends to present the aggressor as the victim despite the incessant condemnation of atrocities committed by the racists while defending their system of segregation. The step taken by Washington is not simply off-target. It is a deliberate attempt to replace measures against Pretoria demanded by the international community with sanctions against sovereign states that have seen their rights systematically violated by a regime that illegally occupies a territory and practices a policy of racial segregation unique in the modern world. This American action also seeks to compare the patriots fighting Namibia's illegal occupation and apartheid with terrorist groups that commit acts of destabilization.

The United States is quite well aware that the racist regime's conduct in southern Africa has always resulted in flagrant violations of international law. There are three main points to this: the practice of apartheid and racism in South Africa itself; the illegal occupation of Namibia; and aggression against South Africa's neighbors. The countless invasions, armed occupation, indiscriminate massacres of defenseless civilians, the destruction and disruption of economic objectives and the civilian infrastructure, and the other aggressive actions — carried out by South African forces supported by mercenaries and puppets — as well as the widely publicized violation of the Frontline States' sovereignty and territorial integrity, have failed to make any significant impression on the U.S. leaders, (who serve) the racists.

The international community has on several occasions stressed that a resolution of the southern African crisis is linked to the elimination of apartheid and the decolonization of Namibia on the basis of UN Resolution 435. Efforts made by the Frontline States toward this goal have always met with the opposition of the Western countries, particularly the United States, through the unbridled use of veto powers and the machinations of the minority South African regime. Thus, the decision to step up the armed struggle by all means is the only alternative until apartheid is forced to surrender.

As for Namibia, the UN Security Council and General Assembly have acknowledged the legitimacy of the Namibian people's fight to end the territory's illegal occupation and, by implication, the legitimacy of any assistance offered their struggle by other countries. Even in 1979, the Security Council adopted Resolution 296, in which it called on all states to increase their moral and material aid to the Namibian people in their struggle against foreign occupation. Likewise, in December 1981 the UN General Assembly adopted Resolution 36/128a, in which it called on all member states to give material, financial, military, and other assistance to SWAPO. One may gather from this that the aid given by the Frontline States fulfills an international political duty that also applies to the oppressed people of South Africa, due to Pretoria's stubborn refusal to eliminate apartheid.

The current status of southern Africa amounts to a deadlocked colonial situation, a lasting, though degrading, apartheid *modus vivendi*, with South Africa's resulting violation of human rights. Its neighbors suffer from insecure borders thanks to the existence of the racist Pretoria regime. Had the measures already approved by the international community been taken against South Africa, the conditions of peace in southern Africa would have been created long ago. The passage of Senator Pressler's amendment clearly shows the U.S. stand on the problem of southern Africa. Those who do not identify themselves with the struggle waged by southern Africa's liberation movements through the application of general anti-South African sanctions are in favor of apartheid.

UN Namibia Council Session Condemns 'Linkage'
MB231538 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
 1900 GMT 22 May 87

[Excerpts] The UN Council for Namibia has energetically condemned racist South Africa's (?continued occupation) and its refusal to comply with the resolutions and decisions of the UN General Assembly and Security Council. This condemnation is expressed in a document issued in Luanda today [words indistinct] Namibia, at the end of its special session. The UN Council for Namibia, which has been meeting at Luanda's Palace of Congresses since Monday [18 May], [words indistinct] attempts by South Africa and the United States to include issues alien to UN Security Council Resolution 435/78 on the future of Namibia. The most notable example is the policy of linkage [preceding word in English], which ties the start of the Namibian independence process with the withdrawal of Cuban internationalist forces from Angola.

The document, which is called the Luanda declaration, views the so-called policy of linkage [preceding word in English] as gross interference in Angola's internal affairs, as the Cuban military presence on its soil is solely the responsibility of the Angolan Government.

The UN Council for Namibia also condemned South Africa's continued aggression against the Frontline States in general and the People's Republic of Angola in particular. All these acts are grave violations of the UN Charter.

In addition, the UN Council for Namibia denounced support for the UNITA armed gang, especially the supply of U.S. Stinger

missiles to that puppet group. The UN Council for Namibia also approved a motion of gratitude to the Angolan Government for the warm reception it accorded the participants in the special session. [passage omitted]

After being invited to speak at the close of the council's extraordinary session today, Comrade Carlos Fernandes, Angola's minister of transport and communication, reviewed important features of the Namibian issue.

[Begin Fernandes recording] Since the end of the Union of South Africa's mandate over Namibia, only the ambiguity and complicity of certain Western powers regarding the implementation of UN Security Council and General Assembly resolutions have permitted the racist South African regime to continue challenging the international community in a bold and arrogant manner. This shows blatant disrespect for the rules and conventions of international law. [passage omitted]

The People's Republic of Angola and the international community unequivocally reject the policy of linkage [preceding word in English] used by the Pretoria regime as a pretext for delaying Namibian independence. This concept was developed by the current U.S. Administration in an attempt to legitimize its aims. This was clearly stressed by His Excellency Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola in his speech marking the 20th anniversary of the UN Council for Namibia, and I quote: In their attempts to perpetuate their hegemonic interests in southern Africa, the United States and its principal allies have exerted economic and military pressure on other governments to secure sufficient support to interfere in the internal affairs of sovereign countries and implement their neocolonialist and imperialist plans. We believe that the international community must unequivocally and firmly condemn these plans; unquote.

The idea of linkage [preceding word in English] must be continually and vigorously rejected by this council. Passiveness will only help delay the establishment of a just, honorable, and lasting peace, which is deeply desired by the peace-loving peoples of this part of the world. [end recording]

78 'Bandits' Killed, 28 Captured in 5th Region
MB251357 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
 1200 GMT 25 May 87

[Excerpt] What remains is for UNITA to turn its weapons against its bosses. Our forces are winning the war. Our defense and security forces stationed in the 5th Political and Military Region continue to inflict devastating blows on the puppet band's roving groups. Accordingly, following cleanup operations staged during the first 3 months of this year, our troops inflicted many losses on the enemy, including the confirmed death of 78 bandits and the capture of another 28. During the operations, the fleeing enemy left behind in his huts war materiel of South African origin, namely weapons and ammunition of various calibers, explosives, uniforms, and other equipment, as well as items stolen from the people such as radios, cassettes, watches, and money. Following our troops' action, 549 civilians were freed from

captivity in the bush, where they had been forced to live under dangerous conditions. [passage omitted]

UNITA Claims 92 FAPLA, 6 Cuban Troops Killed
MB250647 (Clandestine) KUP in French
 to Southern and Central Africa
 0600 GMT 25 May 87

[Text] Jamba, provisional capital of the Free Land of Angola, 25 May (KUP) — According to a war communique issued last Saturday, 92 FAPLA soldiers and 6 Cubans died in violent fighting in the provinces of Huambo, Uige, Moxico, and Cuando Cubango between 16 and 18 May.

One Mi-17 helicopter was shot down on the banks of the Lue River in Moxico Province. The communique added that 21 military vehicles, including 2 BTR's and 1 BM-14, were destroyed and 53 weapons captured.

A violent battle took place near Cuito Cuanavale in Cuando Cubango Province on 18 May. The UNITA forces attacked the MPLA's 59th Brigade, which was preparing to launch an offensive to recover UNITA-controlled Mavinga.

The communique also stated that among the FAPLA soldiers killed in battle in Uige Province was Lieutenant Joao Zua, deputy commander of the MPLA's 44th Brigade. UNITA losses totalled 8 dead and 19 wounded.

Development Aid Agreement Signed With EEC
MB231429 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
 0500 GMT 23 May 87

[Text] Actions to aid our nation's development will begin within a few months, according to a document signed in Luanda this month by an EEC delegation and Angolan officials.

Our country is a member of the African, Caribbean, and Pacific group of states, which are signatories of the Lome III Convention. Angola will receive cooperation aid worth about \$110 million. (?This aid) will be used specifically to help achieve self-sufficiency in food production, and will boost agricultural and livestock projects in Huila Province and fishing projects in Namibe Province. EEC missions are expected to arrive in Angola to monitor and identify peasant production import requirements.

The EEC is also considering a \$100-million grant to Angola for the rehabilitation of the port of Lobito, which is the terminus of the Benguela Railroad. Among other projects, the rehabilitation of Lobito will include upgrading and extending the dock by more than 200 meters for the construction of a container warehouse, and the renovation of the port's rail network and freight cars.

BOTSWANA

Minister Condemns U.S. Senate Aid 'Threat'
MB251604 London BBC World Service in English
 1515 GMT 25 May 87

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] A threat by the American Senate to suspend aid to Frontline States in southern Africa has brought condemnation from Zimbabwe and from Botswana. The Senate decision could seriously damage efforts by SADCC, the economic grouping of the nine Frontline States, to reduce their dependence on South Africa. Among the conditions for continued American aid are that countries in the region should put a stop to cross-border guerrilla raids against South Africa and that they should denounce necklacing. On the line to Gaborone, Will Day asked Botswana's foreign minister, Dr Gaoitwe Chiepe, why she had condemned the American decision.

[Begin recording] [Chiepe] I am shocked and surprised because it links necklacing with the SADCC states which have nothing to do with it. The SADCC states don't encourage it, don't practice it, and so we cannot understand why we should be denied aid because of the necklacing. And then it talks about state terrorism; I don't understand what that means because none of us practices state terrorism.

[Day] Would Botswana find it difficult to denounce necklacing?

[Chiepe] Botswana does not encourage necklacing.

[Day] What effect do you think that this legislation would have on Botswana?

[Chiepe] Well, to stop aid that we had hoped was coming. It is difficult to see why they should have that as the reason.

[Day] So you feel that you are being punished for something which you have not done?

[Chiepe] Yes.

[Day] So why do you think the United States has taken this position?

[Chiepe] Perhaps it has got second thoughts about assisting southern African countries to develop.

[Day] Because, surely, the mood at the moment is to give the SADCC countries support?

[Chiepe] This is what surprised us, and right at the time they were debating this, there was a delegation from the SADCC Headquarters to discuss programs and all this, and they seem to have had fair treatment and a warm welcome.

[Day] So Botswana will not be altering its attitude in the light of this new legislation?

[Chiepe] I don't see what attitude we could alter, because we have always said we do not allow our country to be used as a launching pad to attack our neighbors, and that is part of the thing of what is said in the amendment and so, there is nothing to change. [end recording]

MOZAMBIQUE

PRC Foreign Minister Arrives in Maputo 27 May
MB271430 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
 1400 GMT 27 May 87

[Text] Wu Xueqian, PRC minister of foreign affairs, arrived in Maputo today. In a statement, the PRC minister said the main goal of his visit was to hold talks with Mozambican officials on bilateral cooperation and the political situation in southern Africa. Minister Wu Xueqian gave assurances that the PRC supports the Frontline States.

The Chinese foreign minister is on a tour of African states and has already visited Kenya, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. After Mozambique he will travel to Tanzania, Algeria, and Ivory Coast.

Maputo Lusophone Summit Issues Declaration
MB221951 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
 1803 GMT 22 May 87

[Maputo declaration issued at the closing of the seventh session of lusophone African countries; read by Mozambican Foreign Minister Pascoal Mocumbi — live]

[Text] We, the presidents of the People's Republic of Angola, the Republic of Cape Verde, the Republic of Guinea Bissau, the People's Republic of Mozambique, and the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, met in Maputo from 21 to 22 May 1987.

It is with emotion that we evoke the physical absence of our beloved Comrade Samora Moises Machel. His death is an irreparable loss for the Mozambican people and all our peoples, the African Continent, and progressive mankind. We recognized and admired President Samora Moises Machel as a heroic fighter for African liberation, a revolutionary, and an internationalist leader who led his people to national independence over colonialism and to active solidarity with the oppressed peoples' struggles. His thoughts and works remain with us. They are a precious patrimony of our peoples and an inexhaustive source of inspiration adding to the historic legacy of his unforgettable comrades-in-arms: Eduardo Mondlane, Amilcar Cabral, and Agostinho Neto.

Indications are that the Mbuzini tragedy [Machel's fatal plane crash] was provoked. It occurred in the context of a new escalation of aggression by the apartheid regime against the Frontline States, particularly against the People's Republic of Mozambique and the People's Republic of Angola. It occurred at a time when the Frontline States are developing important diplomatic actions to neutralize other countries' involvement in Pretoria's

aggressive maneuvers. President Samora Moises Machel played a particularly important role in these actions, which we solemnly pledge to follow with the support of all forces defending peace, liberty, and justice for all mankind.

Since the sixth summit in Luanda, we note with satisfaction that a clear understanding has been developing within the international community that the sole cause of the violence, terrorism, and instability in southern Africa is the apartheid regime. This awareness, which is shared by all mankind except for the most reactionary circles, leads the international community to develop an increasingly active role in search of a peaceful solution to the conflict pitting the apartheid regime against the South African people and the region's other peoples.

Regardless of political and social systems, there is an increasing number of states contributing to the Pretoria regime's isolation, countries that recognize and support the South African people's struggle against apartheid, as well as the Namibian people's struggle for national liberation.

Meanwhile, the racist South African regime persists by all methods in maintaining its apartheid policy through intensifying internal repression, destabilization, and aggression against southern Africa's sovereign countries, as well as colonial oppression in Namibia. Pretoria's intransigence and aggressiveness engulf the entire region in a conflict of unforeseeable proportions and consequences.

The South African regime continues to ignore in spirit and letter the Nkomati Accord signed with the People's Republic of Mozambique. It continues and intensifies its aggression against these fraternal countries through terrorist action by armed bandits, which it recruits, trains, arms, supplies, transports, and directs. Likewise, the South African regime, in violation of the Lusaka agreement which it has never respected, continues its acts of aggression against Angola by invading and occupying part of its territory, sowing death and destruction, and by continuing to arm and supply a terrorist group it uses as its instrument. We, the heads of state of Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, and Sao Tome and Principe, reiterate our demand for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of South African troops from the territory of the People's Republic of Angola.

In continuing its policy of promoting generalized warfare in southern Africa, the apartheid regime intensifies the escalation of threats and aggression against the Frontline States and carries out attacks on the Republics of Botswana, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. The apartheid regime — which is intrinsically racist, colonialist, warmongering, and expansionist — cannot follow the path of peace and progress in the region and is not susceptible to reform. The system of apartheid must be eliminated. Once again, we reiterate our condemnation of all maneuvers aimed at legitimizing the terrorist groups created and led by the racist regime of South Africa — people who are behind the massacres, murders, kidnaps, mutilations, and other acts of violence and cruelty against defenseless people, especially old people, women, and children in Angola and Mozambique. All countries, particularly African countries, must deny to these gangsters in the pay of apartheid any shelter, movement, and all logistical or other facilities.

We renew the appeal that we made to the United States during our sixth summit to end assistance to organized terrorism in Angola, and to unconditionally support the right of the Namibian people to self-determination and independence on the basis of UN Security Council Resolution 435/78, thus playing a constructive role in resolving the conflict in southern Africa.

Once again, we reaffirm that Namibia's independence cannot be linked to extraneous issues. It is an inalienable and unquestionable right of its people, one which demands an urgent and priority solution. We have noted that, although resolving the Namibian issue is the responsibility of the entire international community, Angola, on its own, has already taken many steps to facilitate the search for a negotiated solution preserving the Namibian people's inalienable rights. Under these circumstances, South Africa and the United States must assume a constructive attitude by reacting positively to the Angolan Government's initiatives to allow a speedy implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 435/78. We hail these Angolan initiatives and we encourage the Angolan Government to continue on this path, trying through dialogue to find a just solution ensuring peace and stability in the region.

In the struggle for peace, security, and development in southern Africa, we salute the joint action of the Frontline States — particularly the solidarity and assistance of Zimbabwe and Tanzania — in support of Mozambique's struggle against the aggression launched by Pretoria through the use of armed bandits. We have noted with concern that certain countries continue to help armed bandits acting in southern Africa in flagrant violation of the principles governing relations among sovereign states — states that maintain diplomatic relations, as well as relations of cooperation.

In this context, we once again urge the Portuguese Government to put an end to the activities of terrorist groups in the pay of apartheid and which carry out actions against the peoples of Angola and Mozambique from its territory.

We, the heads of state of the five lusophone African countries, reject all attempts to distort the nature of the southern African conflict by placing it in the context of East-West confrontation. We reaffirm our conviction that the region's problem results exclusively from apartheid and colonialism in Namibia.

We, the heads of state of Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, and Sao Tome and Principe, members of the Nonaligned Movement, achieved national independence after a hard and difficult struggle which demanded the supreme sacrifice of many of our countries' best sons. We reaffirm our determination to defend and intransigently preserve our gains, our sovereignty, and our territorial integrity despite the difficult conditions imposed on us.

We, the heads of state of the five fraternal countries — the People's Republic of Angola, the Republic of Cape Verde, the Republic of Guinea-Bissau, the People's Republic of Mozambique, and the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, reiterate our determination to increasingly consolidate the ties of friendship and solidarity among our peoples — ties that were established following common oppression and forged in the fight

for liberty. We reaffirm our determination to actively participate in the struggle for peace, security, cooperation, and progress of all the nations and for the elimination of all causes and factors of tension among states. We reaffirm our full engagement in the cause of liberation, development, and unity in Africa. We will keep high the banner of liberty raised by our beloved comrades Eduardo Mondlane, Amílcar Cabral, Agostinho Neto, and Samora Machel. The struggle continues. Victory is certain.

[Dated] Maputo, 22 May 1987

Chissano Speaks on RSA 'Destabilization'
MB262030 Maputo in English to Southern Africa
 1800 GMT 25 May 87

[Speech by President Joaquim Chissano at the Royal Institute of International Affairs at Chatham House in London on 7 May — recorded]

[Text] My lords, ladies, and gentlemen: To the Council of the Royal Institute of International Affairs, to the distinguished representatives of the political, academic, and business communities of this country, to all members of the audience, and to the people of Britain as a whole, we bring a message of friendship and peace from the people of Mozambique and from the peoples of southern Africa. We are grateful for this kind invitation to address you as we believe that dialogue, mutual exchanges, and cooperation lead to understanding, harmony, and peace for men and women, peoples, and nations. This is why it is already a tradition with us to speak to this important forum.

We have known Chatham House since the 1960's when, arms in hand, we were struggling against Portuguese colonialism for the freedom of our oppressed and exploited country. The founder and first president of Frelimo, Dr Eduardo Mondlane, spoke here in 1968. After independence, too, we were welcomed in this house to bring you our experience of victory. Today we are here once again to exchange views about the problematic of southern Africa. [passage as heard]

We have been following with deep interest articles and analysis of the problematic of southern Africa published over the years in Chatham House's own journal, *International Affairs*. With this in mind we suggest that our meeting today consider the topic, Mozambique in the Southern Africa context.

If we examine the situation prevailing in southern Africa, we see various conflicts occurring in our region. We see violence mount day by day within South Africa as people are arrested, tortured, and killed by the police and the Army, the watchdogs of apartheid. Pretoria's stubborn refusal of dialogue and its resort to destabilization and aggression make it the sole obstacle to peace, stability, and development throughout the southern part of Africa. Pretoria's motive in waging war against the independent states of the region is to (?cloak) racism and racial discrimination and segregation — in short, to preserve the apartheid system.

It is a strategy that dates back to the preindependence phase. In those days it took the form of a close alliance between Pretoria

and the colonial regimes of Portugal and Southern Rhodesia. The colonies of Mozambique, Angola, and Southern Rhodesia were natural bulwarks for apartheid's protection and they provided buffers to keep the racist regime invulnerable. Independence for Angola, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe, in addition to bringing freedom and democracy to a broad swath of the region, stripped Pretoria of allies in southern Africa. The new factors upset South Africa's strategy. The newly independent states made it clear from the start that they were against apartheid, but were willing to pursue a policy of peaceful coexistence with the racist neighbor. Our victories were, however, an inspiration and a catalyst to South Africa people's opposition to apartheid. Hence the international community witnessed the Soweto rising of 1976 and the ferocious repression it encountered from the South African authorities.

The Soweto massacre and the dozens that followed strengthened the resolve of the South African people to reject and condemn apartheid. The killings reflect the regime's incapacity to satisfy the peaceful demands of the South African people for an end to apartheid, a system that the rest of the world regards as a crime against mankind.

The events that are brought from South Africa day after day to television screens, press, and radio show us that the regime can no longer govern without resort to slaughter, murder, and repression. So, the repressive measures are stepped up, a state of emergency is declared, the press is censored, laws are passed to enable the regime to imprison and silence every opponent of apartheid. The right of workers to assemble to discuss their interests or even for social purposes are restricted. The bereaved can no longer gather to bury their relatives and friends. The clergy can no longer preach the word according to their beliefs. Freedom of thought, expression, association, and all other basic human rights come up against the obstacle of apartheid and are subject to draconian penalties.

The struggle against apartheid has taken a strong hold throughout South Africa. The international community has in support of the struggle by the South African people and the peoples of southern Africa who are victims of apartheid. [sentence as heard] The world is increasingly aware that all efforts must be bent on dismantling the apartheid system. The reformist road that the regime embarked upon to solve the crisis within South Africa has met with the overwhelming rejection of the South African people. The half-hearted reforms have been shown up as a political maneuver designed to hoodwink the international community and to stamp out the demand for democracy. Even those within the regime who argued that the reform will work admitted that what has been done falls far short of what should have been done. The reformist option has split the Nationalist Party and brought a wave of resignations by well-known politicians and academics. The 6 May elections, which was yesterday, took place amidst this division of the white community, but also took place amidst mounting internal repression and threats of external aggression against the Frontline States.

The recent South African raid on the Republic of Zambia on 25 April is a flagrant example of such aggression. All this leads us to expect that in the postelection phase no significant progress toward ending apartheid will be made by the Botha regime.

When this regime was faced with ostracism and rejection in the region it chose to intensify political, economic, and military destabilization of the Frontline States. It is a tactic of trying to shift its internal contradictions onto the countries of the region. It is a cruel device of exporting violence into neighboring countries in the vain hope of fooling the international community about the real causes of instability in the areas.

The Nkomati agreement we signed with the Government of the Republic of South Africa shows our readiness to settle our differences by peaceful means. The Pretoria regime, through systematic violation of the agreement, has shown that it has no desire to establish equitable relations with the states in the region on the basis of respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity, and political independence. Accordingly, Pretoria maintains its occupation in the south of Angola, supplies the UNITA bandits, and intervenes directly whenever this puppet body appears on the verge of collapse. It likewise attacks Botswana, Zambia, and Zimbabwe, and since the independence of this country she has imposed economic sanctions against the countries of the region.

Mozambique is the country that currently bears the deepest scars of this policy of regional destabilization pursued by the Pretoria regime. To sow death and spread destruction, South Africa implements its groups of armed bandits. The armed banditry operating in Mozambique began when the regime of Ian Smith recruited and organized a mixed bag of Mozambicans and Portuguese. On the independence of Zimbabwe, the Pretoria regime took charge of reorganizing them and recruiting them inside Mozambique, but by then under the direct command of the South African Armed Forces. The origin and cause of armed banditry lies in the history of Portuguese colonial fascism and the illegal racist regime of Southern Rhodesia, and their links with the apartheid system. These historical roots of armed banditry provide an explanation of the alien quality of the plan it represents and its criminal and antinational character. The alien character of armed banditry was all too apparent a short while ago when all its leaders were foreigners, mainly Portuguese who with Mozambique's independence had forfeited their colonial privileges. To give armed banditry a veneer, Pretoria has recently sought to put people of black skin into the leadership with the aim of conferring legitimacy on one party to a hypothetical dispute. We should like to state categorically that there is no civil war in Mozambique, and no basis for any understanding with terrorists representing apartheid and those who look back with longing to Portuguese colonialism.

As a result of South Africa's actions through the armed bandits and a succession of droughts and other disasters that have struck Mozambique, there are as I speak some 4.5 million Mozambicans who are critically short of food. Most of them have been dislodged from their homes and are far from their traditional farming lands. It is in this highly charged atmosphere and as in yet unexplained circumstances that there occurred on 19 October the air crash on South African territory of the plane in which President Samora Machel and various members of the Mozambican leadership met their death.

When Pretoria uses such ferocious and virulent forms of attack on us, it is reacting to the strategic location of Mozambique, whose ports are vital in serving the landlocked countries.

Pretoria is seeking to perpetuate and augment Mozambique's historical dependence on South Africa, and thereby subject the entire region to its hegemony. She is seeking to transform all the states into satellites, into a constellation of states. Pretoria knows that by damaging Mozambique's economy it will make the other countries of the region more dependent, as they lose the access provided by Mozambique's trunk roads, railway lines, and ports.

Until last year, Pretoria was also using Malawi in its aggression against us. We used peaceful means to bring Malawi to an understanding of the dangers of allowing itself to be manipulated by South Africa in the war of aggression against us. Out of dialogue came an agreement and an understanding acceptable to both parties. Malawi has now joined us in protecting and rehabilitating the railway line that carries goods from Mozambique's port of Nacala to Malawi.

The apartheid regime is also at war with the Southern African Development Coordination Conference, a body whose aim is to promote regional economic cooperation in fulfillment of the desires of the peoples and states in the region to tread the path of peace and economic development. Pretoria seeks to make the SADCC ineffective through continual sabotage of the railway lines and access routes to Mozambique and Angola, whose ports are vital to the economies of the hinterland countries. The South Africans are thus coercing landlocked countries into using South Africa's railways and ports, with the extra burden of transport costs that entails. The damage caused within the ambit of SADCC by South African aggression since 1980 amounts to more than \$10,000 million.

We can thus see that this policy of aggression and destabilization in the region has clearly defined purposes. They include: diverting the international community's attention from the fundamental issues, that is, from the ending of apartheid in South Africa and the eradication of colonialism in Namibia; two, making the world think that the South African people's struggle against the racist regime is fermented from outside and has no roots within the South African society; three, using intimidation and aggression to make the countries of the region abandon their support for the struggle of the South African and Namibian people; four, imposing regional economic integration within the straitjacket of the racist doctrine of a constellation of states dominated by South Africa, and undermining SADCC; five, making the international public opinion think that the contradiction between apartheid and the peoples of the region is the fruit of an East and West difference in the southern Africa arena.

To deal with South Africa's destabilizing strategy and to ensure their own stability and economic development, the region states have also banded together militarily. They know that armed banditry is a tool of South African aggression against the entire region, and so successful joint military operations are being mounted by Mozambique with the support of Zimbabwe, Tanzania, and Malawi. Military cooperation is the correlation of economic cooperation. Only when armed banditry has been eliminated and peace established can we fully develop our countries and make our economies flourish.

But the efforts of the states in the region, however encouraging and fruitful, require a steady backup from friendly states and the

international community as a whole. We believe that the international community has a duty to put all possible pressures on South Africa to put an end, to curb the present aggression and destabilization against the countries of the region. At the same time, the Western states should offer every possible form of government and nongovernment cooperation to our countries, including business investments both under bilateral agreement and a broader SADCC framework.

We cannot wait for an end to South African destabilization and aggression, and for the end of apartheid, to develop our cooperation with the West. It is our belief that the seeds of a relationship sown in these difficult times will bear a harvest of firm friendship in the future. Southern Africa offers several opportunities for foreign investments that will be of mutual and reciprocal benefit. The rail corridors in Mozambique from Beira, Limpopo, and Nacala and the rail corridor in Angola from Benguela provide the location for overall integrated development that could be advantageous not only for the countries of the region, but for the investors, too.

Ladies and gentlemen, not withstanding the difficulties we are facing in Mozambique, we are pressing on with our country's development. Accordingly, we recently adopted an economic recovery program which the government has already begun to put into effect. The program was discussed and agreed with the IMF and World Bank. The agreed package will shortly be submitted to the board for approval. The measures we are taking demand very great sacrifices, for the urban dwellers in particular. We believe this is a necessary process, but one which could play a vital role in launching the process of restoring the sugar and textile industries, for example. We have given priorities so far to the development of the railways, ports, and road systems. There should also be an incentive to foreign investment in Mozambique and other SADCC member states in agriculture, industry, and mining. We in Mozambique have provided the preconditions for investment, political and legal safeguards, and facilities for transport by sea, air, rail, and road to and from the port installation.

The resources in our countries are available to joint venture projects and private investments with the protection of our recently published investment law and relevant regulations and other legal measures, and on advantageous terms to be negotiated with each country. Under the terms of our foreign investment law and regulations, we provide special incentive for investment in such fields as agriculture, livestock, light industry, and fishing. So we urge businessmen and women, and companies in the West and particularly in Britain, not to be slow in taking up these investment opportunities in Mozambique and in southern Africa.

Ladies and gentlemen, as a solution to difficulties that the apartheid regime has inflicted on South Africa, the Frontline States, the SADCC members, and the Organization of African Unity have long advocated and supported peaceful means by way of dialogue. As far back as 1970, the OAU endorsed the Lusaka Declaration that sought through peaceful means to bring an end to Portuguese colonialism, the illegal regime of Ian Smith, colonial occupation of Namibia, and the apartheid system. That declaration remains valid today and has been reinvoked at several high-level meetings of African states. It was the framework for

the Lusaka agreement in 1974, which led to Mozambique's independence, and the Alvon agreement in 1975, which led to Angola's independence. It was also the framework of Zimbabwe's independence that came in 1980 as a result of the Lancaster House talks. The Frontline States have spared no efforts in bringing the policy of dialogue, peace, and good-neighborliness to our region. We are pooling our efforts to halt the escalation of war and the spread of conflict in southern Africa. The Nkomati agreement reached by Mozambique and the Lusaka understanding reached by Angola are the flesh and blood of this consistent policy for peace. Peace is the target of our people's struggle and what they yearn for.

Ladies and gentlemen, the total eradication of apartheid, the sole cause of war and violence in southern Africa, demands a concerted and comprehensive action from the international community which should include support for the South African people's struggle led by the African National Congress and other democratic forces battling for justice, equality, and democracy; strong support, too, for the struggle for the Namibian people, who, under the leadership of the South-West African People's Organization, their sole legitimate representative, are battling for their inalienable right to self-determination and independence; direct pressure for the implementation of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 435 on Namibia; and increased assistance and investment to the Frontline States to promote their economic and social development, bilateral investment and multilateral investment in SADCC — (are solutions) that must be taken to stop the war in South Africa, in Namibia, in Angola, and in Mozambique. If we can do this, we shall be answering the call of history and speaking for the people. Let us take heed of the tragedy that befell mankind during the Second World War. I thank you. [applause]

Views Relations with Malawi

MB270932 Maputo in English to Southern Africa
1800 GMT 26 May 87

[Report on news conference by President Joaquim Chissano at Chatham House in London on 7 May]

[Text] During his recent visit to Britain, President Joaquim Chissano addressed the Royal Institute for International Affairs at Chatham House in London. In the speech, President Chissano explained about the situation in southern Africa and especially in Mozambique. He spoke of the setback to development in Mozambique caused by natural disasters and South African-sponsored MNR terrorism. The Mozambican leader called on businessmen to invest in Mozambique. After his speech, President Chissano answered questions at a press conference.

[Begin recording][Reporter] Having been a counsellor at military academy, I believe that most friends of your audience have great sympathy with the sentiments you expressed in your most interesting talk. It does seem to me though, that if one is asking for investments from both the West and other areas of the world, some efforts will have to be made on the part of your government to come to some sort of terms with the MNR in Mozambique itself. Is this something that you totally disagree with, or is there

some possibility of a future negotiations with the MNR in your country?

[Chissano] Well, if you were able to define to me who is the MNR, you would help me to answer your question. That is the first problem — to be able to define what MNR is. According to our knowledge, I tried to explain here: MNR is just an extension of the Portuguese colonial instruments which worked (against) the independence of Mozambique. MNR is the extension of the Ian Smith army which was fighting against the independence of Zimbabwe and destabilizing Mozambique so that we don't consolidate our independence. The MNR is the extension of the apartheid system. We have already negotiated with all of those — the bosses. We negotiated with the Portuguese Government. They pulled out their army and the fascists remained with what you call the MNR. They put them into South Africa and into Rhodesia and they were trained. I don't know whether, to put the story long, whether you would accept if I took some British. [as heard] We have got nothing to do with the politics of this country — to train them in my country, put them to fight in Britain and at a certain (end), help them, instruct them, and show them what their targets are, and call you and say, please negotiate with them, then I will help you. If you would do that, I will not do it. [applause]

[Question] Peter Soames of BBC Monitoring Service; President Chissano, in your speech, you mentioned relations with Malawi. Do you really feel that a major change has come about in Malawian policy toward your country and this is a change that will last?

[Chissano] Well, I think that the change is toward their own policies, toward their own country, first of all, because their country was depending on South Africa and that dependence cannot last, and today they recognize that they need to cooperate with us for their economic survival. We are willing to cooperate with them. We invited them to join the SADCC and we want to work with them. That is why in December, we signed an agreement and the agreement is working. Malawian troops are already on the Nacala Railway. They are repairing it ... [changement thought] well, they are protecting the civilians, both Mozambicans and Malawians, jointly with our army in order to (protect) their economic interests. I told them once that if a Malawian soldier will die in Mozambique, they should know that he is dying in defense of the sovereignty of Malawi and not in defense of Mozambique, in defense of the economic interests of Malawi and not the economic interests of Mozambique. Otherwise, we don't need them. They are cooperating so far very well. We hope to improve, since the implementation of the agreement has started only last month.

[Reporter] Your Excellency, you have invited foreign investment in your country. We should be very happy to do so, but we would like to know what are the facilities which your government will offer in regard to repatriation of capital, providing land, electricity, water, telephone, and all facilities, and above all, an assurance and a guarantee that the factories, our investments will not be nationalized, as some of the countries have already done so.

[Chissano] Well, we have a law for investment as I told you and if you wish, because it will take long to explain about that. [as

heard] We have a law, it is a comprehensive one, which tackles each one of the issues which you have raised, and besides that, we discuss case by case in order to further the security if this is required, but the law by itself is enough to explain, to answer to your question. So, there is security there, in that sense.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] the need for economic reforms, in Mozambique. With the (accommodation) [words indistinct] economic influence, is there anything being done to prevent the [words indistinct] strategy of (some of the socialist principles) of peace in Mozambique?

[Chissano] Yes, okay. The reforms are part of the implementation of our socialist policies. A socialist country which does not correct its mistakes is not a socialist country. We work according to plans and programs, and we make a balance of what we have done and we correct what ought to be done. In many occasions, socialist countries, as the capitalist countries, do commit mistakes, sometimes big, sometimes small. In our case, we have been consisted since independence in correcting our mistakes, in improving our methods of management. [sentence as heard] Therefore, we don't feel that we have anything to fear. After all, we defined very clearly what socialism is all about. Socialism is for the happiness of people. That is why social development is for economic development. If there is a stagnation of the economy, a drop of development, there is no socialism. Socialism means progress. So, all the measures have got to be taken which guarantee that progress, which guarantee the prospects of economic development.

[Reporter] (Mr President), yourself, do you feel that the military forces provided by Zimbabwe, Malawi, and Tanzania at present are sufficient to secure the Beira Corridor and other transport routes, or do you feel the need for additional military aid? If so, what kind? Is there any substance to the reports that (you are getting) logistical support from India and Nigeria, and finally, sir, do you see a role for the Soviet bloc and the West to assist in this defense [word indistinct] for either or for both? There are three questions in one, (if I might say).

[Chissano] In fact, there are many. Well, I will in short answer these questions. First, the main factor for the solution of our problems is the Mozambican people — and we are mobilizing them to guarantee their safeguard, their defense. We have had difficulties of a logistical nature, and we have been asking several countries to help us since long time ago. The first time when we did it in a big-scale, it was in 1977 at the United Nations, at the Security Council, and we asked all the countries in the world to help us to increase our defensive capacity. Only very few countries answered to our call at that time. Now, about 10 years past, then again, we are calling for all countries to help us increase our defense capacity. We continue to do this at the United Nations and here.

Now, you referred to India and Nigeria. India and Nigeria are just two countries of the nonaligned countries, and one of them of the OAU, who are just responding to the call which was made to all countries of Nonaligned Movement. You know that there is an Africa Fund which was created and which is working and to which not only Nigeria and India have already contributed something. We have there about \$80 million to be distributed

among the Frontline States and it was contributed by many other countries, not only India and Nigeria.

About the Soviets, well I don't know what you are speaking about because with Soviet Union we are cooperating since 1962, when Frelimo was founded; and in 1964, we waged our armed struggle for liberation until independence with Soviet Union, and Soviet Union will continue to support us and to respond to all these international calls up to this date. Therefore, I don't know what answer to give you on the question about Soviet Union. But, be reassured that the Zimbabweans and Tanzanians are there because they want to be there. They regard the struggle against banditry in Mozambique as their own struggle — a struggle for the defense of the region, therefore of their own countries also. We have been working as Frontline States jointly for the defense of the region — first, for the liberation of the region, and second, for the defense of that independence which we conquered. Therefore, it is not a question of numbers, or even not the question of failure of the Mozambican security by themselves.

We rely on our people and we will continue to accept the assistance of the other Frontline States. We did not reach a point where we decided to call in foreign troops outside of our region. We did not reach that stage. I don't know whether we will have to reach it. Let us hope that South Africa is not going to occupy us, it is not going to invade us. Let us hope that South Africa is not going to invite foreign troops.

[Moderator] You have one more question, I think. Yes, sir?

[Reporter] Joseph Henlon. In your speech, you did not mention sanctions against South Africa; and in other statements that you have made, there are not specific mentions of sanctions.

This has been interpreted here to mean that Mozambique is no longer pushing for sanctions against South Africa, that Mozambique is concerned with sanctions as well, that sanctions against South Africa will rebound on Mozambique and will therefore cause harm. There was a press report this morning which specifically said that Mozambique is no longer pushing for sanctions. Could you comment on that?

[Chissano] Yes. When I say let us go and swim, it may mean that I am going to swim, too. But if I just tell you that swimming was good, it does not imply that I am going to swim. [laughter; applause]

[Moderator] Although I have a number of people who are wishing to ask questions, I am afraid it is just coming up to time when I know his excellency must leave. So, it comes to me to thank you, sir, for sparing your time to be with us this evening. At the beginning of your speech, you said that dialogue leads to understanding. It is part of the business of this institute to promote dialogue, and so, in your speech tonight and in the way that you have responded to our questions, you have made a (noticed) contribution to the improvement of understanding and for that,

we are deeply grateful. Thank you very much indeed. [applause] [end recording]

Ugandan President Starts Official Visit

MB271826 Maputo Domestic in Portuguese
1730 GMT 27 May 87

[Text] Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni arrived in Maputo this afternoon on an official and friendly visit at the invitation of his counterpart, Joaquim Chissano. President Museveni was welcomed by President Joaquim Chissano and members of the Frelimo Party Political Bureau, the People's Assembly Standing Commission, and other senior party and state cadres. Members of the diplomatic corps and dozens of people also waited at Maputo's international airport to greet the Ugandan president, who is paying his first official visit to Mozambique. Official talks will be held between Mozambique and Uganda during the trip. President Museveni is accompanied by his ministers of state for foreign affairs and regional cooperation and other officials.

Chissano Hosts Banquet

MB280605 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
0500 GMT 28 May 87

[Text] President Joaquim Chissano yesterday an official banquet yesterday in honor of his Ugandan counterpart, Yoweri Museveni. At the banquet, President Chissano stated that the Ugandan president's visit was an important step in the relations already existing between the two countries. He also said that Uganda's program of economic recovery and Mozambique's program of economic rehabilitation created prospects for speedy development of the two countries' economic cooperation.

Minister Comments on U.S. Visit, Shultz Meeting

MB251240 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1030 GMT 25 May 87

[Passages within quotation marks are recorded]

[Excerpts] Armando Guebuza, minister of transport and communications, returned to Maputo this morning after intensive activity in the United States over the last 15 days, including a meeting with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

"I met a number of U.S. Government officials as well as some senators. My last important meeting was with Secretary of State George Shultz. During this meeting, we reviewed the situation in southern Africa and attitudes concerning our government, as well as the situation in Mozambique. The officials' position as presented by Secretary Shultz is one of support for our programs, especially the economic rehabilitation and emergency programs. He also expressed support for our efforts to eliminate armed banditry in our country." [passage omitted]

In the United States, there is some controversy concerning the appointment of Melissa Wells as U.S. ambassador to Mozambique.

"I had the opportunity of meeting Melissa Wells, U.S. ambassador-designate to Mozambique, in Washington, D.C. This issue is indeed creating some controversy. According to U.S. procedures, after the President has appointed an ambassador, this person must be approved by the Congress. [Words indistinct] at the moment, Melissa Wells is undergoing a kind of Senate grilling. Controversy has arisen because there are some congressmen, most of whom are probably not informed on our situation, who do not approve of diplomatic relations between Mozambique and the United States. However, the attitude of the government and President Reagan is one of support for continued diplomatic relations between our two countries. Thus, they insist on the appointment of Melissa Wells."

Armando Guebuza also held meetings with businessmen in Chicago, New York, and Washington, D.C. These businessmen generally support investment in a number of Mozambican sectors, especially the Beira and Limpopo Corridors.

"Basically, we can say that this attitude is correct and favorable. However, as you are aware, it takes some time to advance from proposals to actual implementation. Nonetheless, many businessmen expressed a willingness to visit Mozambique, especially Beira and Maputo."

Assembly Chairman Returns from Nicaragua, Cuba
MB240539 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
 0400 GMT 24 May 87

[Text] A park in Managua, Nicaragua has been named after President Samora Machel and will be inaugurated by a Mozambican delegation. This was revealed by Marcelino dos Santos, chairman of the People's Assembly, who returned to Maputo yesterday after attending an interparliamentary conference in Managua.

Marcelino dos Santos also visited Cuba, where he met local government officials in line with the good relations between the two countries. The chairman of the People's Assembly also met Mozambican students on the Isle of Youth.

Nampula 'Bandit' Camp Destroyed; 26 Killed
MB271835 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
 1730 GMT 27 May 87

[Text] In the Ribaue District of Nampula Province, the Armed Forces have destroyed an armed bandit camp. In the Mogovolas District of the same province, our troops have killed 19 gangsters and 7 collaborators in the past 2 months, while in Ribaue they recovered a number of goods stolen by the bandits from the local residents and captured assorted war materiel, including AKM magazines and ammunition. A total of 14 people, including women and children who had been forced to live under the bandits' yoke, were also released. The 19 gangsters and 7 collabo-

rators in Mogovolas were killed in a search operation. Hand grenades, 15 loaded clips and ammunition, and 6 parcels containing narcotics were also captured.

Refugees Flee Fighting, Cross Border into Malawi
MB230750 Johannesburg SAPA in English
 0036 GMT 23 May 87

[Text] Harare, May 22, SAPA — Thousands of Mozambicans are fleeing into Malawi from fierce fighting against armed MNR rebels in the northern provinces of Tete and Zambezia, Zimbabwe's domestic news agency ZIANA reports.

Mozambique's ambassador to Malawi, Mr Amos Esteveao Mahanjane, said in Harare today there were now 203,371 Mozambican refugees from war and drought in "spontaneous settlements" in Malawi without enough food, clothing and shelter.

"When I left Malawi to come this week here another 800 Mozambicans crossed the border into Malawi," he said.

Next week the governments of the two countries will meet to discuss the future of the Mozambicans in Malawi.

Mozambicans were fleeing from Lichinga and Mandimba in Zambezia Province to Zomba on the Malawian border. Others escaped from MNR activity at Milange on the Mozambican side of the border to Mulange in Malawi.

"The situation of the flight from Tete is worse because of military operations against rebels causing thousands to flee into Malawi," said Mr Mahanjane.

In November last year the International Red Cross reported that there were 70,000 Mozambicans in four refugee settlements in Malawi.

The Mozambican Government plans to repatriate and resettle the refugees in all neighbouring countries, especially those in Malawi.

"Some of them have their own farms in areas bordering Malawi but we can't repatriate them to their home areas because of the bad security situation," said Mr Mahanjane.

In January a two-man mission of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) visited Mozambique and Malawi in preparation for the repatriation.

Mr Mahanjane, who played a key role in drawing up the repatriation plan, said he left Mozambique in February to become his country's ambassador to Malawi.

After further studies in "safe zones" in Tete by the United Nations Disaster Relief Organisation (UNDRO) it was decided to resettle the returned refugees at Estima near Cabora Bassa "where the soil is good for agriculture."

Thousands of refugees who began self-repatriation now live in

the open and in railcars at Moutize siding near Tete.

The repatriation plan was organised with the United Nations Development Programme and the UNHCR to resettle the returnees in a villagisation programme at Estima.

United Nations Secretary General Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar launched a 200 million dollar (about R400 million) international aid appeal for Mozambicans at a special meeting in Geneva in March.

"Malawi is willing to help the Mozambican refugees but it is impossible because their numbers are too high. There are only a few non-governmental organisations in Malawi to give relief aid to the thousands," said Mr Mahanjane.

Malawian organisations helping the refugees include the local Red Cross, the Ministry of Health and the national women's organisation.

"The Mozambican Government began its plan in January to repatriate Mozambicans in all neighbouring countries, but particularly Malawi because of the high numbers and the conditions they live under," said Mr Mahanjane.

He said in Zimbabwe there were schools, farms and other facilities for Mozambican refugees which were not being provided in Malawi.

Instead of international organisations providing these facilities in Malawi, the Mozambicans were keen that the refugees be repatriated and that the necessary infrastructure be provided inside Mozambique, initially at Estima.

Asked about the need for irrigation at Estima, Mr Mahanjane replied that money was needed for better access to water supplies, but this would be given priority once repatriation began.

SOUTH AFRICA

UDF Says Senate Aid Vote Shows U.S. 'Arrogance'
MB271436 Johannesburg SAPA in English
 1433 GMT 27 May 87

[Text] Johannesburg, May 27, SAPA — The UDF supported the position taken by Zimbabwe, Botswana and Zambia in denouncing the U.S. Senate vote to cut off aid to Frontline States if they did not stop support for the ANC and "necklacing."

In a statement issued today, UDF acting publicity secretary, Mr Murphy Morobe, condemned the Senate vote as "blackmail tactics."

"The last thing these proud Africans would want to be are house-niggers at the beck and call of the American dollar," he said.

"What the Senate has exposed is American arrogance and chauvinism which it thinks it can freely use against small countries to whip them into line."

The UDF agreed with Zimbabwe's Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe that the vote was "supported by racists who tacitly supported white rule in this country because in the end it (white rule) does not rally conflict with American interests of domination and control."

"We shall be waiting to see with keen interest whether their House of Representatives will endorse this Senate resolution.

"Whichever way it goes, the world will have once again seen that American aid has very little to do with humanitarianism but seeks to promote rabid American imperialism and destroy the soul of aid recipients."

Nuclear Self-Sufficiency Expected in 1988
MB261706 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
 1600 GMT 26 May 87

[Text] The chairman of the Atomic Energy Corporation, Mr (John Marais), says South Africa's nuclear program should be virtually independent of overseas support by next year. Opening the Museum of Science and Technology in Pretoria, Mr (Marais) said the Koeberg power station in the western Cape should be utilizing locally enriched uranium by that stage. He said South Africa had the technology and the skill to process uranium which was readily available to a point where it was suitable for use as fuel in nuclear reactors. The research reactor, Safari I at Pelindaba, had been operated with locally manufactured fuel since 1981.

Mr (Marais) said South Africa could not afford to make indefinite use of valuable coal which SASOL [South African Coal, Oil, and Gas Corporation] needed for its oil from coal process to generate heat. New sources and forms of energy had to be found to ensure survival. He pointed out that experts agree that suitable development could be ensured only if it was drawn from a source that was more powerful than coal or oil.

Police Clear Media of Court Bombing Involvement
MB261204 Johannesburg SAPA in English
 1149 GMT 26 May 87

[Excerpts] Johannesburg May 26 SAPA — The media have been cleared of allegations that newsmen were waiting at the scene of the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court blasts — and police are now investigating whether people seen photographing the killer explosions could have been linked to the bombers.

The claims against the press were investigated and police found that professional journalists were not involved, Brigadier Leon Mellett, liaison officer to the minister of law and order, said today.

However, police say unknown people with camera equipment were seen photographing the bomb scene before and during the blast from a high building overlooking the Bezuidenhout Street court.

It was possible these people were in some way involved with the

three suspects seen shortly before the blasts, Witwatersrand Police liaison officer Lieutenant-Colonel Frans Malherbe said today. [passage omitted]

Brigadier Mellett said he was satisfied — "and very grateful" — that it had been established journalists or media photographers were not involved in the issue. "We have never believed and still do not believe professional journalists would be involved in such inexcusable acts," said Brigadier Mellett. [passage omitted]

Police Commissioner Coetzee To Retire in July

MB280840 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1555 GMT 27 May 87

[Excerpt] Pretoria, May 27, SAPA — The commissioner of police, Gen Johan Coetzee, is to retire in July, the minister of law and order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, announced today.

Gen Coetzee will be relinquish his post on July 31 and will be succeeded by the SAP senior chief deputy commissioner, Lt Gen H.G. (Hennie) de Witt.

After his retirement, Gen Coetzee will be posted in another government department. [passage omitted]

Acting Minister in House of Delegates Named

MB271601 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1500 GMT 27 May 87

[Text] The state president has appointed an acting minister of local government and agriculture in the House of Delegates. The appointment fills the gap created by the resignation of the former minister, Baldeo Dookie. Ismail Kathrada takes over the position until a full-time replacement is found. Mr Dookie resigned over dissatisfaction with the leadership of Amichand Rajbansi's National People's Party.

Police Issue Unrest Report Covering 27 May

MB280612 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0609 GMT 28 May 87

[Text] Pretoria, May 28, SAPA — Herewith the SAP's unrest report for yesterday:

"At Daveyton, East Rand: Blacks hurled a petrol bomb at a private house, injuring one black female slightly.

"At Lenasia Station, Soweto, Johannesburg, unknown people set two railway coaches alight. Damage not extensive.

"At Guguletu, Cape Town, Black youths threw stones at a private vehicle, damaging it extensively."

Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

MB280451 [Editorial Report]

STAR Sees Possibility of Further Media Curbs

"Once again it seems the Government may be trying to soften up public opinion preparatory to further restricting the public's right to know, through yet harsher action against the media," Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 27 May observes in a page 10 editorial. In a television interview this week, Home Affairs Minister Stoffel Botha "reverted to a familiar theme — the alleged sins of the 'alternative' Press." "The tactic of trying to isolate these small and vulnerable papers has been seen before. The deal effectively offered last December was that mainstream papers would be exempted from new emergency restrictions if they stood aside and let the authorities have their way with the others, which are not members of the Newspaper Press Union [NPU]. To its credit the NPU told the Government that any further curbs must apply to all the media. If the minister is now hinting at some similar offer the response should be the same. Hamstrung as it is from printing all the news, the Press has something more precious to lose — its credibility — if it bargains away part of its indivisible freedom or acquiesces in any way in helping to do the Government's dirty work."

BUSINESS DAY: Inquiries Compromise Judiciary

Commenting on PFP MP David Dalling's criticism of the Munik commission of inquiry into "the Chris Ball [Barclay's Bank managing director accused of knowingly allowing an overdraft used by the UDF to fund a newspaper advertisement calling for the ANC's unbanning] affair," Johannesburg *Business Day* in English on 27 May says in a page 6 editorial: "The appointment of judges to such commissions is a time-honoured tradition in South Africa, but the length of tradition cannot obscure the essential purpose of using judges: the political authorities hope that something of the credibility and authority of the judiciary will rub off on their own political cause." However, these commissions of inquiry often lead to controversy, which "must inevitably compromise the reputation of the judiciary." "The need to safeguard the reputation of the courts dwarfs all other issues in the matter, and that can best be achieved by ceasing to use sitting judges as commissioners of inquiry."

CAPE TIMES on P.W. Botha Invitation to Blacks

In a page 14 editorial on President P.W. Botha's newspaper advertisement appealing to black leaders to join negotiations, Cape Town *Cape Times* in English on 26 May remarks that while this is a "fresh initiative," "so far there is not even an indication that Mr Botha's idea of negotiation and that of credible black leaders has anything in common; nor that he is prepared to bargain away anything substantial, even assuming he meets with credible black leaders." If President Botha "is serious in his professed intent to negotiate, he must first create the necessary conditions. That done, he must not consult but negotiate — and preferably with an open agenda for a new South Africa."

SOWETAN: Taxation Without Representation

In its page 8 editorial on postal and transportation tariff increases, Johannesburg *Sowetan* in English on 27 May notes that people who vote "at least have a certain amount of

accountability from the people they have put in power. Although we are taxed, we have no representation. Yet we are still expected to support severe budgetary measures imposed by people who do not represent us."

NEW NATION: Indaba 'Fundamentally Undemocratic'

An article on page 6 of Johannesburg *The New Nation* in English for 28 May to 3 June reports on an analysis of the KwaZulu-Natal Indaba by Dr Michael Sutcliffe of Natal University's town and regional planning department. Sutcliffe finds various faults with the Indaba, such as the secrecy of its negotiations and the fact that the organizations participating in it reflected "certain political and economic interests," which "made it possible for the indaba to express support for the 'free economic system' after only three meetings." "Another aspect which exposes the sham of the indaba's negotiations is its starting point. From the very beginning, it discussed the details of a federal solution," thereby taking it for granted that federalism would be the only option discussed. According to Sutcliffe, the Indaba's proposed constitution "leaves the door wide open for 'security' measures similar to existing national legislation" and even makes provision for a Natal regional defense force. "Sutcliffe is pessimistic about the indaba's contribution to the political debate about this country's future. 'The process employed in arriving at this constitution was fundamentally undemocratic,' he wrote. 'It will have the effect of constraining future national solutions to the crisis in South Africa.'"

Indaba 'Attempt To Entrench Racism'

Another article on the Indaba proposals on page 7 notes that the proposed constitution envisages an electorate "carved up into five background groups." This is "nothing but an attempt to entrench racism in a disguised form." Furthermore, the Indaba proposals will inevitably lead to "some duplication in crucial areas such as labour, police, defence and justice," which has far more "sinister implications" than mere costliness and inefficiency, since duplication will lead to a considerable increase in the "tentacles of control. The central government will gain an important ally in its battle to maintain law and order. Also, the indaba only meets the demands for full national representation half-way. It is therefore not a serious attempt at all to come to grips with the country's problems. It does not amount to much more than control and apartheid in a sophisticated new form."

BEELD on Union Role in Politics

"The increasing involvement of South African trade unions in politics is causing concern," says a page 12 editorial in Johannesburg *Beeld* in Afrikaans on 27 May. Instead of evolving into pressure groups to redress workers' grievances, "it sometimes seems that unions are exploiting the nation's revolutionary political climate and are trying to become political pressure groups. It often seems that there is no difference between their goals and those of terrorist organizations such as the ANC." Furthermore, "the polarization between trade unions and the authorities is increasing, with serious consequences for all." "Trade union leaders must realize that reform is not reserved for politicians." If they and employers "would improve communication between themselves and work together to ensure the continual strengthening of South Africa's economy to promote peaceful evolutionary change, in the interests of the country and its people, they will have made an enormous contribution to reform."

DIE BURGER on ANC Danger to Kaunda

"Despite a threatened suspension of U.S. aid, the Zambian and Zimbabwean Governments have reaffirmed their support for the ANC. In so doing, they have made a clear choice: They prefer the proponents of violence to the economic assistance they so badly need," says the page 14 editorial in Cape Town *Die Burger* in Afrikaans on 26 May. "President Kaunda, who is not quite as firm in the saddle as he used to be, would do well to remember a warning he once made about the communist tiger and its cub. At the time he was worried about the Cubans who were streaming into Angola and who still remain there in the tens of thousands. The ANC, with its head office in Lusaka, is another such tiger cub. For a long time now, Kaunda has been protecting, petting, and nurturing this cub possessing strong communist links. Already it is being asked whether he is still strong enough to get rid of the cub."

SWAZILAND

Prime Minister Issues Statement on Arrests

MB230806 Mbabane THE SWAZI NEWS in English
23 May 87 pp 1, 16

[By Mashumi Twala]

[Text] Twelve people who were arrested and detained this week will appear before court next week to be formally charged.

The Commissioner of Police, Mr Sandile Mdziniso, said yesterday that they have to be brought before a court of law before the end of two weeks in terms of the law.

The group, comprising a former prime minister, a cabinet minister, members of the royal family, ex-members of the defunct Liqogo Supreme Council [of State] and chiefs, are expected to be charged with sedition and treason.

And, Mr Mdziniso said, more people are to be arrested.

Meanwhile, another name has been added to the list published in yesterday's edition of our sister newspaper, *The Times*. It is that of Chief Lusekwane of Siteki, a former member of Liqogo.

The office of the prime minister, Mr Sotsha Dlamini, has since issued a statement confirming the arrests of the 12 people.

The statement says that the people were arrested on Thursday for their suspected involvement in political events of August 1983 which affected the then head of state, Dzeliwe.

It continues: "The police will now carry out the necessary investigations with a view to establishing the role played by each of the arrested persons in the 1983 events."

Among the people affected are: former prime minister, Prince Bhekimpi, the Minister of Labor and Public Service Prince Phivokwakhe. Others are Prince Dabede, Prince Mahlabi, Princess Mngwase, Princess Tfohhi, Chief Masenjane Nsibandze, Chief Mfanawenkhozi Masoko, former ombudsman, Robert Mabila, former governor of Makhanya, Khalalemphe Mndzebele

and Lawrence Zwane, a friend of Prince Mfanaibili.

Former Ligoqo member, Dr George Maibi is understood wanted but still at large. He disappeared from the country in September last year.

Prince Phiwokwakhe was arrested from his home in Mbabane where his family said he was woken up and arrested by police.

Chief Mfanawekhosi Maseko was arrested at his home at Bhunya while fixing his car. He was disarmed of a gun.

Mabila was also collected from his farm at Malkerns.

Princess Mnengwase was arrested in Manzini. She was a member of the standing committee of the Ligoqo before she was sacked. Chief Masenjana and Mfanawekhosi were members of Ligoqo.

ZIMBABWE

PRC Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian Continues Visit

Mangwende Speaks at Luncheon

MB261705 Harare Domestic Service in English
1600 GMT 26 May 87

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Comrade Witness Mangwende, has called on nuclear power states to stop their arms race, both on earth and in outer space, for the general good of mankind. Speaking in Harare at a luncheon hosted by his ministry for the visiting Chinese foreign minister, Comrade Wu Xueqian, Comrade Mangwende reiterated Zimbabwe's call for international peace and security. He called on all warring nations to find peaceful solutions to their differences, adding that Zimbabwe, as chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, was totally opposed to the support given by some Western countries to reactionary forces bent on overthrowing sovereign states. Comrade Mangwende and his Chinese counterpart called on the South African regime to end its apartheid policies and also its illegal occupation of Namibia. Earlier, Comrade Wu laid a wreath at the tomb of the unknown soldier at the National Heroes Acre in Harare before touring the site. Comrade Wu, who arrived in Zimbabwe yesterday for a 3-day visit, was taken on a conducted tour of the Heroes Acre by Comrade Witness Mangwende.

Wu Urges End to Apartheid

MB270544 Harare Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 27 May 87

[Text] The visiting Chinese foreign minister, Comrade Wu Xueqian, has called on the international community to impose mandatory sanctions on South Africa to help end apartheid in that country. Addressing guests at a luncheon in his honor in Harare yesterday, Comrade Wu called on South African authorities to end their illegal occupation of Namibia and stop practicing apartheid. He also called on them to stop destabilizing neighboring states, adding that only by doing so will peace return to the region.

Meets With Mugabe

MB271154 Harare Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 27 May 87

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has told the visiting Chinese foreign minister, Comrade Wu Xueqian, that he had come to Zimbabwe at a time when relations between Zimbabwe and China are growing stronger at party and government levels. Comrade Mugabe met the Chinese foreign minister at Munomutapa Building in the capital this morning. Comrade Wu conveyed to the prime minister greetings from the Chinese leader, Comrade Deng Xiaoping, and from Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang. The Chinese foreign minister said that his visit to the southern African region is to further understand the situation in South Africa and the struggle against apartheid being waged by the Frontline States. Yesterday, Comrade Wu held discussions with his Zimbabwean counterpart, Comrade Witness Mangwende.

Report Sees Little Chance for Economic Growth

MB261636 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1335 GMT 26 May 87

[Text] Harare, May 26, SAPA — Unless dramatic improvements are made in the amount of foreign exchange available to importers, Zimbabwe has virtually no chance of economic growth in the next two years because of its debt service commitments, says the National Chamber of Commerce's annual report.

A substantial proportion of the country's export revenue was used to service foreign debt and "a higher than usual proportion set aside this year to repay maturing debts," said the chamber, the semi-official ZIANA news agency reports. "Our debt service commitments in 1987 and 1988 have virtually removed any chance of growth in these two years unless dramatic improvements are brought about in the amount of foreign exchange available soon to importers," said the report.

Without such an improvement, gross domestic product was likely to fall by as much as five per cent, no net improvement in employment was likely, and there would be a greater probability that some businesses would have to make "unpleasant decisions" about their future operations. "We appear not to have yet accepted the need for imaginative and far reaching measures to improve our investment climate," it said.

Zimbabwe's economy was no bigger, no more diversified and no more productive or efficient than it was in 1980 but the population had grown, lessening each person's share, it said.

The economic problems had therefore inevitably translated themselves into social and political stresses on everyone, perhaps most seriously through the unemployment crisis. In the past decade, tens of thousands of jobs had been lost in the productive sectors, while the population growth rate added more than two million people to the population. Most of the new jobs created since 1980 had become available only because employment in the government and social services had doubled.

"Regrettably, it appears that a recovery would take several years

to achieve even if developments were placed on the most hopeful path possible right now. Realistically, our chances fall short of this hope.

"Time will be needed to overcome our own difficulties and the problems that the increased tensions in southern Africa have inflicted on Zimbabwe," said the report.

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29 May 87